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Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-89-217
Monday
13 November 1989

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

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Palestinain Affairs

PLO Names 5-Man Committee To Consider Baker Plan

JN0911181489 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 8 Nov 89 p 29

[By Sawsan Abu-Husayn]

[Text] Cairo—Palestinian sources have told AL-ANBA' that the PLO Executive Committee, which met in Cairo recently, has formed a five-man committee composed of Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh; 'Abdallah Hurani; Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu-Mazin; Mahmud Darwish; and Sulayman al-Najjab to lay down plans of action for the coming stage through coordination with Egypt. Yesterday, the committee met with Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid to define the PLO's final position on the Baker plan, on the basis of which the Arab and international activity will take place. The Palestinian committee will hold a meeting in Tunis tomorrow, Thursday, after which it will present a report to Yasir 'Arafat.

'Abdallah Hurani told AL-ANBA' that the PLO is aware that the Israeli agreement on Baker's five points with regard to the dialogue is merely pro forma. This is because the enemy's inner cabinet placed conditions on their agreement—conditions which include the exclusion of the PLO from the proposed Palestinian-Israeli dialogue and confining the dialogue to discussion of elections in the occupied territory.

PLO-Egypt Contacts on Baker Plan 'Intensive'

JN0911161889 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1430 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 9 Nov (WAKH)—Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs in the United Arab Emirates, met here today with PLO Executive Committee Member Mahmud 'Abbas, known as Abu-Mazin.

Abu-Mazin told WAM after the meeting that he and Rashid 'Abdallah exchanged views on the rapid developments and intensive contacts taking place in the Palestinian arena, including Israeli enemy Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's plan, the Egyptian 10 points, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's five points and their amendments, and the U.S. position before these amendments.

Abu-Mazin said intensive contacts are being held with the brothers in Egypt to arrive at a unified response to the U.S. Administration regarding the Baker plan, especially after the Tel Aviv Government's approved the amended plan on condition that U.S. guarantees will be given.

He said the PLO Executive Committee will, in today's meeting, define the Palestinian position on the peace efforts and its conception of activity in the next stage.

He expressed the conviction that during yesterday's meeting between Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and a number of PLO Executive Committee members, an understanding was reached on a number of issues pertaining to the Palestinian position on the current initiatives.

Mahmud 'Abbas said that, during his meeting with Rashid 'Abdallah, they discussed the situation in the occupied territories and the repressive and terrorist Israeli acts against the Palestinian people, especially the events in Bayt Sahur, which is being subjected to a long siege and inhuman practices.

'Informed' Sources Cited on Baker Plan

NC0911171289 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1204 GMT 9 Nov 89

[MENA Palestinian affairs editor Basimah Nafadi report]

[Text] Cairo, 9 Nov (MENA)—Palestinian sources in Cairo expect tonight's expanded meeting of Palestinian leaders in Tunis to culminate in a major and definite decision which will have a significant impact, negative or positive, on the future of the Palestinian cause. This depends on whether the Palestinian leadership declares its explicit stand on the amended version of the "five-point" plan presented by U.S Secretary of State James Baker regarding a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue in Cairo.

The Israeli mini-cabinet had accepted the plan, after adding two important points which made the central goal of dialogue, as seen by both the Palestinian and Arab sides, nonexistant.

The amendments proposed and obtained by Israel stipulate the following:
1. That the Palestinian delegation include no PLO members and that it be exclusive to Palestinians from inside the occupied territories, and
2. That the dialogue touch on no points other than the elections.

What, then, is the party's stand on the Baker plan, and what will the PLO Executive Committee discuss in Tunis tonight?

Highly informed Egyptian sources believe that the PLO should accept the principle of dialogue, no matter what form it takes, and even if the delegation members are selected only from within the occupied territories. According to Egyptian officials, all the Palestinian leadership has to do to make the delegation represent it is to approve that delegation.

As far as the items of the agenda are concerned, the highly knowledgeable sources believe that "all matters pertaining to the Palestinian cause and the Palestinians living in the occupied territories can be presented." Then, at a later stage, "it will be possible to proceed to the fundamentals of the dialogue as viewed by the PLO." By then, the elections will have produced Palestinian negotiators who will, necessarily, belong to the PLO, since 98 percent of the Palestinian people believe that their leadership is in Tunis.

The same sources believe that the PLO should demand clarifications and explanations. Hence, it should not shut the door completely to current efforts, because this is bound to defer a solution of the Palestinian problem, which is already taking a lower priority in view of current international developments, as well as the agreement between the USSR and the United States on a number of priority issues, such as disarmament, the situation in East Europe, and the situation in the Soviet Union itself.

This inclination has been concluded from remarks made by Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry, in the presidential office the day before yesterday [7 November]. Dr al-Baz contended that the points presented by Baker are worthy of thorough consideration. He added that regardless of reservations and clarifications which may be required, the parties concerned should view matters in a positive manner, and thus pave the way for the dialogue, which will represent a positive development in the history of the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Dr al-Baz added that we should waste no opportunity for progress, whether Baker's plan is completely right or not. The same point was emphasized by U.S Secretary of State James Baker. He announced in Honolulu that he had not accepted all the Israeli amendments on his plan for a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. He added that Israel had received few guarantees before accepting the formula.

Baker added that he was still considering the Israeli demands. He noted that he had rejected Israel's demand to specify the topics to be discussed at any Palestinian-Israeli meeting. He noted also that starting the dialogue in itself is the primary issue.

According to informed Palestinian sources in Cairo, after its meeting in Cairo the PLO Executive Committee was expected to announce a clear stand on the Baker plan that would indicate acceptance of the plan in principle. However, the committee did not declare a definite view after the meeting, but postponed its final decision until the meeting scheduled to be held in Tunis tonight.

In addition to the Executive Committee, the expanded leadership includes the Fatah Central Committee, the largest group in the Palestinian revolution movement, which includes those leaders who have been prominent in the movement's history; and the secretaries general of the Palestinian groups that are under the PLO umbrella and who also represent figures of historical importance in Palestinian revolutionary action.

Palestinian sources in Cairo have mentioned the guarantees which the PLO reportedly wants to obtain from the United States through Egypt. These are:

—Agreement that the dialogue should be a preliminary step toward an international conference for peace in the Middle East;

—Agreement that the dialogue should not be restricted and that the PLO should have the right to form [tashkil] the Palestinian delegation;

—Assurances that the dialogue will be followed by elections which would be the first step toward "a just and lasting peace," which in the Palestinian lexicon means the establishment of a Palestinian state;

—A commitment by Israel to support the basic principles of U.S. Middle East policy, such as the principle of exchanging land for peace, the principle of the Palestinians' political rights and the development of these rights to become "the right to self-determination," and confirmation of Israel's acceptance of Resolutions 242 and 338.

—The provision of guarantees that the PLO will participate fully in all stages of the peace process.

Several statements made by Palestinian officials in the past few days have underlined these points.

What remains now is to review the stance of the Palestinian leadership. Sources close to it believe that this stance is governed by two tendencies, which will be to the fore at the meeting in Tunis today.

The first rejects the Baker plan. It calls for this rejection to be to conveyed to the United States through Egypt and for no further concessions to be made;

The second is supported by a large group in the Fatah movement and calls for guarantees, clarifications, and explanations to be provided that would make the dialogue with the United States open.

This group believes that the Palestinian people inside the territories have made many sacrifices, while the Arabs have failed to pay the necessary funds to the people inside the territories and the United States and Israel have counted on the possibility of putting an end to the intifadah and of benefitting from the time factor.

In the end, the main and decisive decision which will be made in Tunis tonight by the expanded session of the Palestinian leadership will have an important effect on the future of the Palestinian problem.

PLO, U.S. Officials Meet in Tunisia for Talks

LD0911205489 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Hakam Bal'awi, PLO representative in Tunisia, met at noon yesterday with officials of the U.S. Embassy in Tunis. The latest developments concerning the efforts and consultations aimed at achieving practical progress in the Middle East peace march were discussed. The results of the latest attitudes of the various concerned parties, especially the official Palestinian attitude, were also discussed. Brother Hakam again confirmed the PLO's eagerness to provide an impetus to the peace march in a manner that achieves our people's national objectives.

Executive Committee Meets on Baker Plan in Tunis

LD1011003389 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee met today in Tunis under President Yasir 'Arafat. The meeting discussed the results of the talks held by the organization's delegation with Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, concerning the plan of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker on the holding of elections in the occupied land. Abdallah Hurani, member of the PLO Executive Committee and member of the delegation to the Palestinian-Egyptian talks held in Cairo 2 days ago, said that the Palestinian leadershp discussed the U.S. secretary of state's plan, the amendments to it requested by the Israeli Government, and Israel's conditions for the holding of a Palestinian-Israeli meeting in Cairo. He added that the Executive Committee will continue its meetings later in order to formulate the Palestinian response to the plan and the Palestinian point of view regarding the conditions for a just solution to the Palestine problem which will be delivered to the Egyptian Government for relay to the American administration.

PLO 'Inclined' To Approve 5-Point Plan

LD1011143589 Kuwait KUNA in English 1327 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] Tunis, Nov 10 (KUNA)—The Palestinian leadership is inclined to approve the five-point of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker under the Palestinian conditions which the Palestinian central (?council) recently underlined, it was announced here Friday [10 November].

An informed Palestinian source here told KUNA today that the prevailing trend within the Palestinian leadership meetings, under way here since yesterday, is to accept dialogue with the Israeli side according to conditions laid by the Palestinian Central Council which met recently in Baghdad.

Elaborating on the Palestinian conditions, the source, who sought anonymity, explained that the dialogue is conditional on the basis of [word indistinct] and equality, the PLO is the only authorised party to name and announce the Palestinian delegation to the talks, which should not be held under U.S. supervision only but rather under a U.N. umbrella, with participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council, in particular.

The Palestinian-Israeli proposed dialogue, according to the source, should also represent a preliminary step towards convoking the international conference on peace in the Middle East, the leadership stressed.

The PLO Executive Committee held a meeting here last night under Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat to discuss the organisation's position on the five-point plan made by U.S. State Secretary James Baker for a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue in Cairo.

The committee has delgated its secretary Jamal al-Surani to travel to Cairo to communicate the Palestinian leadership's official position on the proposal for further relay to the American side.

Sources Cite 'Clarifications' Requested From U.S.

NC1011161689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1503 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] Cairo, 10 Nov (MENA)—Responsible Palestinian sources in Cairo have said that after the meeting which ended this morning in Tunis, the expanded Palestinian leadership decided to ask for more clarifications from the United States in the framework of maintaining the peace process and in accordance with the decisions passed at the PLO Central Committee meeting in Baghdad on 18 October 1989.

The sources said that these clarifications—which were formulated as questions—concern the U.S. views on the following points:

1. The right of the PLO to form a delegation from inside and outside the homeland—and declare its formation—to take part in any negotiations conducted either in Cairo or elsewhere, on the basis of the PLO's sole right to represent the Palestinian people in any matters concerning the Palestinian cause and rights and the peace process and its stages.

2. Whether the United States is ready to accept the Palestinian peace plan as a basis for the Palestinian-Israeli meeting, in addition to other proposals such as the plans of Baker and Shamir.

3. Whether the United States would accept that the dialogue be open and free from any previous conditions.

4. Whether the United States would pledge [taltazim] that the meeting would be considered preliminary talks between the Palestinians and Israelis and that the meeting and the elections would be seen as a step toward holding the international peace conference which will be attended by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, the UN Secretary General, and representatives of other concerned parties, including Egypt and Sweden.

5. Whether the United States would guarantee [tadman] Israel's commitment to the four principles of the U.S. policy in the Middle East concerning the settlement, which are: Settling the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 383, guaranteeing security for all the countries in the region, upholding the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, and accepting the principle of exchanging land for peace.

Mahmud Expects Response to Baker Plan in 'Hours'

LD1011232889 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] Brother Abu Mazin ['Abbas Mahmud], member of the Executive Committee of the PLO, has said that the

organization will decisively declare its stance toward the question of the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue and the Baker plan during the next few hours.

Brother Abu Mazin said in press statements that intensive Palestinian-Egyptian consultations are taking place to formulate a joint stance to be officially communicated to the United States today, Friday. He said that it is a decisive stance based upon the results and resolutions that were arrived at during the meetings of the Central Council in Baghdad last month.

Brother Abu Mazin said the adjustments that have been made to the Baker plan serve the interest of the Israeli side and that the plan has lost its importance because it has become an identical copy of the Yitzhak Shamir plan.

Reported Conditions on Accepting Baker Plan Denied

JN0911203489 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic
8 Nov 89 p 29

[By Fathi al-Barqawi]

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Member Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh has categorically denied a report in the Cairo newspaper AL-AHRAM that the PLO has listed seven conditions for accepting U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's plan. 'Abd-Rabbuh, who participated in the recent PLO Executive Committee meeting in Cairo, added that this is absolutely incorrect. He said the PLO Executive Committee neither made conditions nor raised questions about the Baker plan.

He added that the PLO Executive Committee reiterated the PLO Central Council's decision to reject the plan in its original form and after it was amended. 'Abd-Rabbuh noted that the Baker plan essentially coincides with the Israeli design to nullify the PLO's role as the representative of the Palestinian people and to guide the entire process toward only the election plan, and consequently, to impose limits on the political course whose ultimate outcome will be autonomy under the umbrella of Israeli occupation.

'Abd-Rabbuh said that the amendments made by Baker to his plan were in response to Israeli demands and that these amendments only revealed the essence of the American position.

'Abd-Rabbuh confirmed that the recent meeting of the PLO Executive Committee did not discuss any amendments or questions that would give the impression that the PLO had accepted the Baker plan.

Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh said that the Palestinian leadership discussed listing points that might constitute an opposition plan to counter the Baker plan—points that stem from the resolutions announced by the PLO Central Council. These resolutions include the following: No dialogue if not based on balanced and equal foundations in accordance with the Palestinian peace initiative; the PLO is the party that forms and announces the Palestinian delegation; the agenda of the dialogue should be open; the program of the Palestinian side is to hold to the Palestinian peace plan; the dialogue must not be separate, under American supervision, but with broad international participation, particularly the five permanent members of the UN Security Council; and that the dialogue should be a preparatory step toward the international peace conference.

'Abd-Rabbuh stated that any other formula will only lead to the revival of Camp David and separate solution plans under American supervision. And this will result in restricting the rights of the Palestinian people to the level defined in the Camp David accords, that is, autonomy at the most.

'Abd-Rabbuh also categorically denied that the Palestinian side discussed, with any party in Egypt, amendments or questions on the Baker plan. He said that Washington is trying to train the Arabs to accept these conditions gradually.

Commenting on the recent American veto of the draft resolution presented by Kuwait on the Israeli repressive acts in the occupied Palestinian territory, 'Abd-Rabbuh said that this shows that U.S. policy still depends on giving a cover to the Israeli crimes in the occupied Palestinian territory and on using the terrorism and looting that took place in Bayt Sahur and elsewhere as a form of pressure to continue Washington's political blackmail to push the Palestinians into accepting the Shamir plan.

'Abd-Rabbuh said that the U.S. Administration has not changed the essentials of its policy—they remained the same before and after the dialogue. He added that the U.S. Administration still bases its policy on a number of major positions that are identical to Israeli policy, particularly the disregard for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, the attempt to find alternatives to the PLO, and their attempts to solve the problem the basis of autonomy stipulated by the Camp David accords.

'Abd-Rabbuh expressed his conviction that the American tactics of initmidation against the PLO stand to benefit greatly from Israeli intransigence and stubbornness, if their tactics involve a form of division of roles.

'Arafat Terms U.S. Initiatives 'Stillborn'

JN0911180089 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1700 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] In a message to the Palestinian people on the 24th month of the Palestinian intifadah, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said the U.S. Administration's initiatives seeking to divide the Palestinian people and exclude the PLO are stillborn. 'Arafat added: We want peace for the strong, based on right and justice, because our people have decided to be free and masters in a free territory. We do not want the capitulation of the weak.

'Arafat did not directly mention U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's proposals on the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue.

Abu-Nidal Group Accuses PLO Official

JN0911184489 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] The latest reports from the Palestinian arena indicate that operations to settle scores have begun between the Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] group on one hand and those who seceded from the group and their supporters—namely, the PLO—on the other. Three Abu Nidal gunmen attacked 'Ali Hasan—Abu 'Imad, the deputy chief of the PLO bureau, at his home in Tripoli, Libya, the day before yesterday. The incident was disclosed only this afternoon, according to an informed Palestinian source in Tunis. The source added that Libyan security forces arrested and interrogated the assailants on the same day.

This incident follows the announcement that certain members of the Abu Nidal group had seceded and formed a provisional emergency command. The secession was officially announced in a statement to the press. Abu Nidal immediately accused the PLO office in Tripoli of assisting the dissidents.

PFLP-GC Siding With Eritreans Because of Falashas

JN0811234289 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] In response to reports about the ruling regime in Ethiopia allowing 16,000 Falasha Jews residing in Ethiopia to emigrate to Palestine, an official spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] has stated the following:

This is a hostile act by the Ethiopian regime against the Arab nation in general and the Palestinian people in particular. It is a reward to the Zionist enemy at this time in particular when our Arab people in Palestine are oppressed by the Zionist enemy.

The ruling regime in Ethiopia would not have been able to stand on its feet and survive if it were not for the huge Arab aid extended to it. With this act, the Ethiopian regime is thus showing ungratefulness and ingratitude.

Palestine is a land with people. Part of these people live under the yoke of the Zionist-U.S. occupation, while the other part live in diaspora. These people can never accept such an action by the ruling regime in Ethiopia or by any other regime in the world, because reinforcing the Zionist entity with the human factor is a hostile act against the Arab nation in general, and against the Palestinian people in particular.

The PFLP-GC, which in the past endeavored to find common ground between the ruling regime in Ethiopia and the Eritrean revolution, has become aware of the nature of this regime which collaborates with the Zionist enemy. It is now repeating the Falashas operation which the ousted Ja'far al-Numayri carried out during the last years of his rule.

The PFLP-GC will reconsider its stand toward the ruling Ethiopian regime. It will resume relations of support and backing with the revolutionaries of Arab Eritrea. We pledge to continue the struggle on the path of liberating land and man.

[Signed] PFLP-GC.

Egypt

Government Voices Support for Lebanese President

NC0911134289 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Egypt has voiced support for Lebanese President-elect Rene Mu'awwad and declared its readiness to provide all necessary assistance to consolidate the legitimate sovereignty on all Lebanese territory.

Lebanese Ambassdor in Cairo 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Sulh said this after his meeting with Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

The Lebanese ambassdor said Dr Ghali reiterated Egypt's support for Lebanon's unity and sovereignty. He added that he briefed Dr Ghali on developments in Lebanon, and the steps leading to the election of a new president. He said the president-elect believes in national reconciliation and that conditions are favorable for collective cooperation for Lebanon's prosperity and independence.

'Abd-al-Majid Briefs Baker on Palestinian Stand

NC1011200689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1958 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] Cairo, 10 Nov (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, telephoned U.S. Secretary of State James Baker tonight and briefed him on the latest developments in the Palestinian stand.

Foreign Minister Meets PLO's Al-Surani

NC1011194889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1915 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] Cairo, 10 Nov (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met here this evening with PLO Executive Committee member Jamal al-Surani, who arrived earlier in Cairo as Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat's envoy.

Al-Surani presented some requests for clarifications to Dr 'Abd-al-Majid from the PLO to be relayed to the U.S. Administration. These clarifications will help the PLO crystallize its position on U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's plan.

Al-Surani told MENA that Yasir 'Arafat and the Palestinian command have asked him to come to Cairo to convey a message to President Husni Mubarak on recent Palestinian trends. He noted that the message underlines the PLO's deep appreciation for the role played by President Mubarak and the Egyptian Government in helping the Palestinian issue and their persistent endeavors to reach a just and lasting settlement to the Middle East problem.

Al-Surani added that the message also stresses that the Egyptian role is basic and fundamental to any action on the Palestinian problem and that the PLO is committed to its peace strategy to reach a just and lasting settlement.

Al-Surani expressed the PLO's willingness to hold a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue in Cairo that would prepare for an international conference to be attended by the five permanent security council members and all concerned parties, including the PLO, to find a permanent solution that would guarantee the Palestinian people's rights, foremost of which is their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil.

'Abd-al-Majid, Dumas News Conference

NC1211163289 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1245 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] Cairo, 12 Nov (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has asserted that Egypt and President Husni Mubarak personally are seeking to ensure the beginning of a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue as a step on the path to peace. They are also seeking to ensure the success of this dialogue, he said.

Dr 'Abd-al-Majid added: We believe that there is no other way to reach a solution to the Palestinian issue except through the beginning of a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue.

This came in a news conference which the foreign minister held today and which was attended by the members of the European troika, comprising the French, Spanish, and Irish foreign ministers.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid affirmed that the wheel of peace will turn by itself once the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue begins.

He denied a report that Egypt is forming a Palestinian delegation consisting of individuals from the occupied territories to take part in the dialogue. He declared that Egypt has no lists pertaining to such a delegation. He said: We have already denied what has been published on this matter. However, I can say that the Palestinians have some queries about U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's plan. This is their legitimate right. The Israelis have also had some comments and reservations on the same plan. I informed the U.S. secretary of state of the Palestinian queries during my telephone conversation with him on Friday night. I am not at liberty, however, to provide details about the Palestinian stand.

At the news conference, French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, who is the delagation's spokesman, in view of France's current EC chairmanship, stated that the talks between the delegation and President Mubarak and other Egyptian officials, notably Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, had been useful and productive. He added that they discussed the peace process, recent international developments, and the desire of all parties to hold an international peace conference as the final and basic objective and as a means to attain the desired peace.

Dumas remarked that the delegation and President Mubarak also discussed French President Francois Mitterrand's proposal for an Arab-European dialogue to be held at foreign minister level in December.

He said that President Mubarak stressed Egypt's support for this idea and stated that Egypt will participate in this meeting. Dumas noted that they had also discussed relations between Egypt and the EC, particularly in connection with economic and financial issues and the negotiations with international financial institutions.

The French foreign minister added that the Lebanese issue had also been on the agenda. He said that the EC and Egypt both regard the election of Lebanese President Rene Mu'awwad as the beginning of a new stage. They also agreed that it is necessary to encourage all parties to stress Lebanon's sovereignty and liberty.

Dumas reported that Egypt broached the issue of the current changes in Eastern Europe and their effect on Western Europe's relations with the countries of the Middle East and the Mediterranean. He added: We assured Egypt that the new relationship with Eastern Europe will not be at the expense of the countries of the Middle East and the Mediterranean.

He noted that Europe openly supports the proposal to hold an international conference for peace in the Middle East as a means to establish peace. He said all parties connected with the conflict must attend the conference and noted that there is some hope that a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue will begin, despite doubts and reservations and the gap that separates the Palestinian and Israeli stands.

Dumas remarked that if this is the time to bring down the walls in Europe, then let us call and hope for the collapse of the wall of suspicion between the Palestinians and Israelis and for the beginning of a dialogue. He said that all parties must redouble their efforts, embark on a real dialogue, and ensure its success.

In response to a question, Dumas said that the troika delegation will meet with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in Paris on his way back from Washington and will be briefed by him on the results of his talks. The troika will advise him to begin a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. Dumas added: We told Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat during our meeting with him in Tunis that it is necessary to have patience and demonstrate good intentions.

The French foreign minister remarked that the EC has repeatedly declared that, in calling for the participation of all parties in an international conference, it means the inclusion of the PLO because, as French President Mitterrand has remarked, it is the struggling group that represents the Palestinian people.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid commented on this by saying that Egypt has proposed Cairo as a venue for a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. He remarked, however: We want it to take place, even if it is held somewhere else. What is important is to hold a dialogue and ensure its success.

We wish to note that the European troika includes French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, Spanish Foreign Minister Franciso Fernandez-Ordonez, and Irish Foreign Minister Gerard Collins.

Source Denies Forming of Palestinian Delegation

NC1111123889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1145 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] Cairo, 11 Nov (MENA)—A responsible source at the president's office has denied a report by a foreign news agency today, quoting Egyptian political sources, that Egypt and the United States are studying the possibility of forming a Palestinian delegation from inside the occupied territories to hold talks with Israel in the first stage. The source affirmed that this report is completely unfounded.

The source said that consultations and coordination between Cairo and the PLO are still continuing to reach a suitable formula to begin the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue in Cairo.

Sudan

Al-Bashir Sends Messages to Tutu, Saddam Husayn

EA0811121989 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 7 Nov 89

[Text] Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council [NSRCC], has sent a letter of thanks to Father Desmond Tutu, the Anglican archibishop, expressing his sincere appreciation for his short visit to the Sudan, and his efforts to establish peace in southern Sudan.

In his letter he stressed Sudan's unshakeable stand on finding a solution for the people of southern Africa, and achieving justice, freedom, independence, and equality.

His excellency also sent a letter to the Iraqi president, Saddam Husayn, on the developing relations between the two countries. In it, Lt Gen 'Umar praised Iraq's fraternal stand with the people of the Sudan. In his letter he also praised the hospitable reception accorded to the Sudanese delegation which visited Iraq recently, led by staff Brigadier al-Zubayr Muhammad Salih, deputy chairman of the NSRCC.

Official Says 'Number of Detainees' Freed

EA0511213689 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Nov 89

[Text] Staff Colonel Bakri Hasan Salih, member of the Revolution Command Council and member of the Security and Operations Committee, has stated that the committee has freed a number of detainees against whom no clear charges were preferred from when they held various posts. This is in line with the principles announced by the National Salvation Revolution, as well as to maintain justice in conformity with the spirit of the proceedings of the national dialogue conference.

19 Political Prisoners Released

AB0611170789 Paris AFP in English 1611 GMT 6 Nov 89

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 6 (AFP)—Sudan's ruling junta has released 19 political prisoners including ex-leaders of the Umma Party of former premier Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and the National Islamic Front, official sources said Monday.

In a statement to the press, junta member Colonel Bakri Hasan Salih said the decision had been taken after an inquiry had cleared all 19 of suspicion of corruption during Mr al-Madhi's ousted civilian regime.

Information Minister 'Ali Muhammad Shammu said that among the 19 were three leaders of the Umma Party: Nasruddin al-Mahdi (Mr Al- Sadiq al-Mahdi's cousin), 'Umar Nur Eddayem, former finance minister, and Bakri Ahmed Adel, former education minister [last two names as received].

The two former Islamic National Front leaders released were Ahmad 'Abd-al-Rahman Muhammad, former interior minister, and Ibrahim al-Sanussi.

Also among the released were the general secretary of the Order of Sudanese Lawyers, Ishaq al-Kassim Shadad and Sadiq al-Shami, a member of the Order's council, and a journalist, Mohamed Osman Abu-Shok [name as received].

The ruling junta which seized power in a coup last June 30 dissolved all political parties, unions and profesisonal associations, arresting several political leaders.

Officials did not say how many political prisoners remained in jail.

Refugees Deliberation Conference Opens in Khartoum

EA0511114789 Khartoum SUNA in English 1615 GMT 4 Nov 89

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 4 (SUNA)—The number of refugees in Sudan has increased from a mere 5,000 in 1965 to more than one million in 1989, according to relief and refugees affairs minister, Rev Peter Urad. The minister was addressing the opening session of refugees deliberation conference which will continue up to the 10th of current November.

Rev Urad has hailed the international community which has been extending assistance to the Sudan in facing the influx of refugees. The minister said Sudan will continue providing shelter for refugees, emanating from a humanitarian angle and in compliance with the regional and international charters of which Sudan is a signatory. The minister pointed out that the international community has to shoulder its full responsibility in sharing the burden with the hosting countries.

Minister Addresses Conference

EA0511164489 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 2145 GMT 4 Nov 89

[Text] Mr Peter Urad, minister of relief and migrants' affairs, this morning addressed the opening session of the first deliberative conference of the refugees' commission at the People's Hall in Omdurman.

In his speech, his excellency expressed his thanks to the international community, represented by the volunteer organisations, which are offering their assistance to Sudan so that it may fulfill its obligations toward the refugees.

His excellency praised the role of the refugees' commission in sheltering and caring for the refugees, appealing to the international community to provide more support to Sudan for accepting large numbers of refugees in the country.

Retired Brigadier 'Abd al-Rahman Sirr al-Khatim, retired, commissioner of refugees, spoke at the beginning of the session, explaining the role of the commission in caring for the refugees, and what it does in this field. He added that the aim of the conference is to discuss the problems facing the commission and to find solutions to them.

Members of the Revolution Command Council and ministers, in addition to the commissioner of the national capital, the chief of general staff, governors of regions, ambassadors, and delegates of international volunteer organizations and bodies attended the session.

Official Inaugurates National Dialogue Week

EA0511164889 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 2145 GMT 4 Nov 89

[Text] Colonel Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, member of the Revolution Command Council and chairman of the steering committee for peace issues, this morning inaugurated the national dialogue week, in the Cairo University Students' Union building in Khartoum, which is being organized by the union.

Col Khalifah confirmed the revolution's commitment to dialogue as a way of dealing with the country's issues. He said: We should pursue the principle of dialogue instead of pointing guns at peoples' chests.

Mr Joseph Lagu, deputy chairman of the steering committee of the national dialogue, also spoke, calling on the students to benefit from previous experiences in the sphere of the endeavor for peace. He affirmed that the revolution's course will inevitably lead to peace.

Support for Operation Lifeline Cited

EA0711225589 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 7 Nov 89

[Text] The UN General Assembly decided to support the Sudan in the second phase of Operation Lifeline, following discussions on the reports of the first phase of the

program during its 44th session, which was recently held in New York. This step was taken in response to a proposal from the Arab group, and supported by France. The resolution praised the government and the people of Sudan in confronting the disasters, and making available human services to the victims. It expressed its appreciation for the success of the first phase of Operation Lifeline and the participation of the international organizations in this sector, especially the efforts of the UN general secretary in polarizing the international assistance.

The resolution confirmed that the international community will continue to support the Sudan in the field of relief, and the schemes of rehabilitation.

Mr Kamil Shawqi, delegate general of relief, stated that contacts are currently proceeding to convene the conference of donors to Operation Lifeline program in its second phase at the end of this November.

Food, Security Situation 'Stable' in Equatoria

EA0511165289 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 5 Nov 89

[Text] Staff Brigadier Dominic Kassiano, member of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council and the political supervisor for Equatoria Region, has stated that the food and security situation is stable in the region.

He said: Investigation committees have been formed to look into the contraventions which occurred in the cooperative sector in the region, and that the committee has begun its work.

The authorities concerned in Equatoria Region have finished transporting all the region's workers present in Khartoum to Juba. About 2,000 officials and workers have been transported.

SPLA Claims Capture of 3 Army Garrisons

EA0911150489 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] units of the New Funj under the command of the chief of staff, Comrade William Nyuan Bany, have captured three other Army garrisons in Blue Nile Province over the last 7 days of heavy fighting. The army garrisons are: Daym Mansur, Ora, and Shali al Fil. The strategic garrison town of Shali al Fil [30 miles southwest of Kurmuk near the Ethiopian border] fell to the gallant force of New Funj last night at 1930 Sudan local time [1730 GMT]. Shali al Fil is the administrative center of the Uduk people of southern Blue Nile. A great amount of military hardware including tanks and heavy artillery has been captured in Shali al Fil. Details will follow as soon as they arrive at Radio SPLA.

In a related development, the spokesman disclosed to Radio SPLA that the command of the New Funj forces has already entered into negotiations with the patriotic elements in the nearby garrisons of Khawr Yabus, Maban, and Qaysan so that Sudan Army soldiers in these garrisons effect a peaceful withdrawal within the next 48 hours, starting at 1500 hours Sudan local time [1300 GMT], today 9 November 1989.

Rebels Report 'Heavy' Fighting in Rumbek

EA0911144789 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] In Lakes Province, heavy fighting has been going for the last 4 days between the government-held town of Rumbek [200 miles northwest of Juba] and the SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army]-held town of Yirol, in and around Rumbek. Fighting was started by the Sudanese Army, beginning with the air bombardment of Yirol [60 miles east-southeast of Rumbek] and air bombardment of SPLA positions between Rumbek and Yirol. The Army then started to advance from Rumbek to Yirol in a futile attempt to recapture Yirol. They were met by SPLA units of the (Konanok) forces about 15 km from Rumbek on the road to Yirol and heavy fighting lasted 2 days. The junta's advance on Yirol was contained and repulsed back into Rumbek 2 days ago, on 7 November 1989, and heavy fighting now still continues in and around the town of Rumbek.

Kassiano Comments on Battle

EA1111191289 Khartoum SUNA in English 1630 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] Khartoum, 11 November (SUNA)—Member of the Revolutionary Command Council, Brigadier Dominic Kassiano, received here today the director of the Red Cross office in Khartoum. Brig Kassiano, following the meeting, said he reviewed with him the problems that cripple the progress of relief operations undertaken by the Red Cross in the south.

On the other hand Brig Kassiano, the political supervisor of Equatoria Region, affirmed that the food and security situations in the region are very good. He also asserted that the situation in Rumbek town, southern Sudan, is under the Armed Forces' control. It is worth noting that the Armed Forces, in a communique issued yesterday, announced that it had crushed a rebel attack on Rumbek and inflicted heavy losses on them, according to the communique.

Correction to Army Statement on Umm Doga Battle

AB0911152189

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Army Issues Statement on Umm Doga Battle," published in the 9 November 1989 Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, page 19: page 19, column one, second paragraph, make headline read: "Army Issues Statement on Rumbek Battle" (changing place-name from "Umm Doga" to "Rumbek")

same page, same column, paragraph six, first sentence make read: ...brave town of Rumbek [capital of Lakes

Province] and our heroes... (changing place-name from "Umm Doga" to "Rumbek" and changing editor's note)

Bahrain

Amir Receives U.S. General Schwarzkopf 9 Nov

JN0911085789 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0810 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Manama, 9 Nov (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, this morning received General Norman Schwarzkopf, commander of the U.S. Central Command, who is currently visiting Manama.

The audience was attended by Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Mubarak Al Khalifah, foreign minister; Staff Lieutenant General Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Ahmad Al Khalifah, minister of defense and deputy commander in chief of the Bahraini Defense Force; and the U.S. ambassador to Bahrain.

Kuwait

Amir Receives Pakistani Petroleum Minister 7 Nov

JN0711113989 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 7 Nov 89

[Text] At 0930 today, his highness the amir received Jehangir Badar, Pakistani minister of petroleum and natural resources, on the occasion of his visit to the country.

Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-'Adhbi, and the Pakistani ambassador in Kuwait attended the meeting.

Heir Apparent Receives Pakistani

JN0711114189 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 7 Nov 89

[Text] His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah Salim al-Sabah, heir apparent and prime minister, received Jehangir Badar, Pakistani minister of petroleum and natural resources, and the delegation accompanying him, in his office at Bayan Palace at 1000 today.

Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-'Adhbi, and the Pakistani ambassador in Kuwait attended the meeting.

At 1030, his highness also received Hungarian Trade Minister Tamas Beck and the delegation accompanying him, on the occasion of his visit to the country.

Attending the meeting were Trade and Industry Minister Faysal 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Khalid and the Hungarian ambassador in Kuwait.

Minister Leaves for Baghdad

LD0711153889 Kuwait KUNA in English 1447 GMT 7 Nov 89

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 7 (KUNA)—Pakistani Minister of Petroleum and Natural Resources Jehangir Badar left Kuwait for Baghdad this afternoon after ending a four-day visit here.

He was seen off at the airport by his Kuwaiti counterpart Sheikh 'ali al-Khalifa, Pakistan's ambassador here Zahid Khan and managing director for marketing at Kuwait Petroleum Corporation Abdallah al- Rumi.

Speaking to KUNA before departing, the Pakistani minister said his talks with the officials in Kuwait tackled ventures of mutual interest but did not specify the details.

Asked if a new agreement was signed between Kuwait and Pakistan, he replied that there is no need for a new agreement because of an existing agreement between the two countries on oil supplies to Pakistan.

"There is no need for a new agreement because the whole requirement of petroleum production of Pakistan we are taken it from Kuwait," Jehangir said.

Pakistan imports from Kuwait about 3.8 million barrels of oil annually, the minister stated.

He expressed hoep that the just ended visit and another visit to be paid by sheikh 'Ali al-Khalifa to Pakistan next month would strengthen the ties between Kuwait and Pakistan and increase the level of cooperation in the field of petroleum and natural resources.

Hungarian Trade Minister Departs After 4-Day Visit

JN0911165089 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Hungarian Trade Minister Tamas Beck left the country today following a 4-day official visit.

The visiting Hungarian minister was seen off by Commerce and Industry Minister Faysal 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Khalid.

Trade Agreement Signed

LD0811191889 Kuwait KUNA in English 1543 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 8 (KUNA)—Kuwait and Hungary Wednesday signed an agreement to encourage and protect mutual investments designed to activate trade exchange and create appropriate atmosphere to boost economic cooperation.

The agreement was signed by Oil Minister and Acting Finance Minister Sheikh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah and Hungarian Trade Minister Dr. Tamas Beck. The latter is currently visiting the country on a four-day official visit.

The 18-article agreement, which followed one year of preparations including three rounds of talks, stipulated that each country should encourage investors of the other and that both would guarantee that their activities would not be discriminated against or be liable to any arbitrary measures.

The agreement affirmed importance of providing incentives and facilities including all necessary licenses and approvals in accordance with regulations of the host country.

The fifth article underlined that suitable compensations should be paid to investments of either country if they were damaged because of war or any other armed conflict, or a national emergency case, a revolution, disturbances, riots or other similar events.

The seventh article prohibited nationalizing or confiscating investments unless due to national causes and in return for an immediate and just compensation.

The agreement further organized the transfer of profits, technical costs or any other income of investors and stipulated that settlement of disputes should be first tackled through consultations and negotiations.

If the dispute was not settled in six months, it should be referred to an arbitration panel, at the request of either country, that includes representatives of both along with a neutral third country.

The 20-year-long agreement further tackled relations between governments and special basis for execution of the agreement.

Interior Minister Meets With Egyptian Counterpart

JN0911151289 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Interior Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah held talks today with visiting Egyptian Interior Minister Brigadier General Zaki Badr. The talks, attended by a number of senior officials in the interior ministries of the two fraternal countries, centered on security cooperation between Kuwait and Egypt and on the exchange of visits between security officials in order to enhance efforts to combat terrorism and drugs and to develop cooperation in the security field in general.

KUNA reported that committees have been set up to follow up these topics.

Interior Minister Meets Iranian Ambassador

LD0411232389 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 4 Nov 89

[Text] Kuwait, Nov. 4, IRNA—The strengthening of Tehran-Kuwait economic and trade ties were discussed in a meeting between Iranian Ambassador here Hoseyn Sadeqi and Kuwait's Interior Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah al-Salim on Saturday [4 November].

Talks were also held on removal of some hurdles in the way of expansion of activities of Iranian companies in Kuwait as well as creation of more facilities for Iranian and Kuwaiti nationals to visit one another's countries.

Defense Minister on Raising Standards

LD1011114589 Kuwait KUNA in English 0932 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 10 (KUNA)—Defence Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir has announced that the ministry is currently studying programs and plans to raise the standard of military and civil sectors.

Interviewed by Kuna, Shaykh Nawwaf emphasised that the new plans fall within the context of the ministry's developmental programs seeking to cope with changes in modern military and civil technology.

He indicated that their inspirations in this regard are unlimited but implementation and realisation of those targets need time and thorough study.

The defence minister stated that the ministry was making emphasis on building the "human factor" who is the basic element in the state of change to cope with developments of military technology.

The attainment of this objective, Shaykh Nawwaf went on, would be realised gradually and through phases. A timetable would be set for implementation of our [words indistinct] and that would be the guideline to achieve the defence ministry's programs of promotion, he said.

Shaykh Nawwaf reiterated the keenness of H.H. the Amir, the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, and H.H. the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah on boosting the general standard of performance on Kuwait's Army by providing all necessary requirements.

Shaykh Nawwaf commended the outcome of the recent meeting in Riyadh by the Gulf Cooperation Council's [GCC] defence ministers and described the meeting as "fruitful and important" adding that it had tackled many issues of interests.

He stressed that views of GCC ministers were identical to a great extend during celebrations on items on the agenda of the meeting "a matter that enable us to end the discussion earlier than the previously fixed schedule."

"Most of proposals referred to the ministers by the GCC chiefs of staff have been endorsed and very few of them were postponed for further study and revision prior to implementation," Shaykh Nawwaf said.

On the need for building military production industry in the GCC states, the minister pointed out that this goal needs time to be turned into reality, but he said such "an ambitious project" could start by manufacturing ammunitions and light weapons rather than heavy military arms.

However, he added, the formula now under discussion by the six member states regarding this issue is based on the principle of integration and well-balanced distribution of the proposed industry among the GCC states.

He said the six member countries were the belief that military maneuvers among their forces must continue, adding that joint military exercises for GCC air, land and sea units are scheduled to be conducted in Kuwait next month.

Oman

Minister Leaves for Abu Dhabi With Message

JN0711152489 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Nov 89

[Text] Lieutenant General 'Ali Ibn-Majid al-Ma'mari, minister of the palace affairs office, left the country for Abu Dhabi this afternoon. He is conveying a written message from His Majesty Sultan Qabus Ibn-Sa'id to his brother Emirian President Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuyahhayn dealing with relations between the two friendly countries. His Excellency 'Ali Ibn-Majid al-Ma'mari was seen off by the Emirian charge d'affaires in Muscat.

Sultan Qabus Receives Message From Chad President

JN0811135289 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus Ibn-Sa'id has received a written message from Chadian President Hissein Habre. The message was delivered to Fahd Ibn-Mahmud al-Sa'id, deputy prime minister for legal affairs, when his highness received this morning Chadian Foreign Minister Achiek Ibn Oumar. The latter conveyed the greetings and good wishes of the Chadian president to his majesty the Sultan and his wise government. During the meeting, talks centered on reviewing the current issues in the African and international arenas and issues of mutual interest.

U.S. General Schwarzkopf Leaves Oman 8 Nov

JN0811153489 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] General Norman Schwarzkopf, commander of the U.S. Central Command, left the country this morning after a visit of many days to the Sultanate. During the visit, he met with His Majesty Sultan Qabus Ibn-Sa'id, the supreme commander of the Armed Forces. He also met with a number of ranking officials in the Defense Ministry.

To see the guest off upon his departure from the [name indistinct] airbase were Staff Brigadier General Pilot Yahya Ibn-Rashid Al Jum'ah, assistent chief of staff of the Sultan's Armed Forces for administrative affairs; Brigadier General Yusuf Ibn-Khilfan al-Busa'idi, head of the Moral Guidance and Public Relations Department and acting assistent chief of staff of the Sultan's Armed Forces for operations, the U.S. charge d'affaires, and a number of ranking officers in the Sultan's Armed Forces.

PDRY

PDRY Supreme People's Council Session Opens

EA0711132989 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 6 Nov 89

[Text] The 11th session of the Supreme People's Council began work this morning, at the Palestine Conference Hall. It was chaired by Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Politburo and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium. Also present were representatives of popular, creative, and information organizations, as well as foreign reporters.

At the beginning of the session the participants stood for a minute of silence to honor the late Mahmud Tar'mum. Following a review of the agenda of the session, approved by the people's representatives, Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas read the political report submitted by the Council Presidium.

Cultural Accord Signed With PRC

EA0211194289 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 1 Nov 89

[Excerpt] A program for cultural cooperation between our country and the PRC for 1989-1991 was signed this morning in Beijing.

Brother Faruq al-Hakimi, deputy minister of culture and information, signed the program on behalf of our country, and the Chinese deputy minister of culture, on behalf of the Chinese side. [passage omitted].

Qatar

Amir Receives Austrian Defense Minister

JN0811103289 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0920 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] His Highness Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Hamad Al Thani today received Austrian Defense Minister Dr Robert Lichal, who is currently visiting Doha within the framework of a tour of a number of the region's states.

Attending the meeting were His Highness Shaykh Hamad Ibn-Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and defense minister; 'Abdallah Ibn-Khalifah Al Thani, interior minister; and Staff Colonel Shaykh Hamad Ibn-'Abdallah Al Thani, chief of staff of the Qatari Armed Forces.

During the meeting, the talks dealt with the situation in the region, regional and international issues, and means of promoting cooperation between Qatar and Austria in all fields.

The Austrian defense minister arrived in Doha yesterday on a 4-day visit.

Austrian Minister Departs 10 Nov

JN1011081289 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0645 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] Doha, 10 Nov (WAKH)—Austrian Defense Minister Dr Robert Lichal left Doha this morning following a 4-day visit to Qatar within the framework of his tour in the region, which included Kuwait and Bahrain.

The Austrian minister held talks with Qatari officials on issues of mutual interest and on bilateral relations.

Ambassador-Level Ties Established With Peru

JN0811104789 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0930 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] Doha, 8 Nov (WAKH)—The State of Qatar and the Republic of Peru have decided to establish diplomatic relations between them on the ambassadorial level.

A joint statement issued today reads: Out of their desire to promote relations of friendship and cooperation between their countries, the Governments of the State of Qatar and the Republic of Peru have decided to establish diplomatic relations on the ambassadorial level as of today.

The statement expressed the two sides' confidence that the establishment of diplomatic relations and the exchange of ambassadors will contribute to promoting international cooperation, reinforcing world peace, and supporting the exalted principles of the Nonaligned Movement.

United Arab Emirates

'Retreat' Seen in Soviet Stand on Arab Cause

JN0411181589 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 3 Nov 89 P 1

[Editorial: "This Retreat in the Soviet Stand!"]

[Text] In exciting, successive developments, we have recently begun to see a series of retreats and unusual stands in Soviet relations with the central Arab cause.

A few days ago, the Soviet delegate abstained from voting in favor of a Libyan proposal to deprive the Zionist entity of its membership in the United Nations. This shocking abstention was the clearest message that Moscow has thus far addressed to the Arab capitals. It reflects the Kremlin's new approach to dealing with the Palestine question.

We are fully aware of the fact that there are several changes that are currently taking place in the USSR and in its international relations. However, we are also aware of the fact that principled stands toward peoples' legitimate issues cannot simply be reversed. Moreover, the retreat in the USSR's stand toward the Middle East issue simply means that the United States will unilaterally deal with the solution that is dictated by Israel. Is this what the Soviet Union is currently seeking—at a time when Arab capitals are trying to resist Washington's policies which are aimed at isolating Moscow and minimizing its role in the region?

It is the right of the Soviet Union to establish international relations in view of its own interests. However, the issue will be different when these relations affect the crux of our cause.

Perhaps Moscow's changing stands prove that the Arab nation—more than ever before—needs to adopt a collective stance to force the big powers to think seriously before taking any action that might harm it.

'Deep Satisfaction' With Mu'awwad Election

JN0611160189 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1430 GMT 6 Nov 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 Nov (WAKH)—The United Arab Emirates [UAE] has voiced is deep satisfaction with electing Rene Mu'awwad president of Lebanon by the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies.

In a statement to WAM, a responsible source at the Emirian Foreign Ministry said the UAE is confident that this great achievement has come to crown the efforts of the Higher Arab Tripartite Committee as well as the honest efforts of the Lebanese deputies, and that this important event epitomizes the spirit of national accord which was recently reached in al-Ta'if.

The spokesman added that as the UAE congratulates the Lebanese people, it hopes that this achievement will mark the start of a new beginning that will lead Lebanon back to its natural state and enable it to exercise sovereignty over all its territories and take its effective position in the greater Arab homeland in the interest of the great nation.

Bangladesh, UAE Commerce Ministers Discuss Ties

JN0611173689 Manama WAKH in English 1625 GMT 6 Nov 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Nov 6 (GNA)—The United Arab Emirates [UAE] and Bangldesh agreed to boost trade at talks between their commerce ministers today.

UAE Minister of Economy and Commerce Sayf al-Jarwan discussed the issue with his Bangladeshi counterpart Mohammad Abdul Sattar.

They agreed to increase trade between the two countries through exchange of visits by businessmen and setting up trade fairs

Abdul Sattar invited Jarwan to visit Bangladesh. He accepted the ivitation and a date is to be set.

The meeting was attended by the Ministry's Assistant Undersecretary for Trade Affairs Muhammad Jasim al-Mazki and Assistant Undersecretary for Economic Affairs 'Atiq 'abd-al-Rahman.

PLO's 'Abbas Expresses Thanks for UAE Support

JN0711120589 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 7 Nov 89

[Text] Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has expressed the Palestinian leadership's thanks to His Excellency Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Ibn Zayid Al Nuhayyan, heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces, for

their unlimited support for the brave Palestinian intifadah in the occupied territories and for the continuous initiatives by the UAE people and government to reinforce the Palestinian struggle and support the Palestinian people in their just struggle to regain their rights and establish their independent state on their national soil under the PLO's leadership.

This came during His Highness Shaykh Khalifah's reception of Mahmud 'Abbas, PLO Executive Committee member, at his highness's office this morning. Attending the meeting were Shaykh Hamdan Ibn Zayid Al Nuhayyan, Foreign Ministry under secretrary and His Excellency Khalid Malak, Palestinian ambassador to the UAE.

The meeting dealt with the current developments in the Palestinian arena and the efforts to hold a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. 'Abbas also informed Shaykh Khalifah on the conditions currently experienced by the Palestinian people, their brave intifadah in the occupied territories against the Zionist oppression, the suppressive measures carried out in various forms and manifestations by Israeli occupation forces, and the siege imposed on the town of Bayt Sahur.

His Higness Shaykh Khalifah Ibn Zayid Al Nuhayyan affirmed that there should be an international move to put an end to Israeli occupation authorities' practices against the blessed intifadah of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, prevent them from continuing their ceaseless aggression, and acknowledge the inalienable rights of the Palsetinian people. He also emphasized that the UAE will not hesitate to give all forms of backing to the PLO, being the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative.

'Abbas Concludes Visit, Departs 9 Nov

JN1011081589 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0600 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 9 Nov (WAKH)—PLO Executive Committee Member Mahmud 'Abbas, also known as Abu-Mazin, left Abu Dhabi this evening following a 3-day visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE].

During his visit the Palestinian official met with a number of UAE officials and discussed with them the latest developments on the Palestinian arena.

Yemen Arab Republic

Cabinet Conveys Congratulations to Lebanese

JN0611213189 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 6 Nov 89

[Excerpts] The Council of Ministers held an extraordinary session at 1600 this afternoon under 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, prime minister and Standing Committee member, to discuss the state general budget for the new fiscal year 1990. [passage omitted]

Concluding the meeting, the cabinet reviewed the recent developments in fraternal Lebanon. It expressed its satisfaction over the election of a new president to the Lebanese republic and the reelection of a prime minister in preparation for forming a new government based on the national accord document.

The cabinet affirmed that these positive developments consolidate legitimacy over Lebanese territory on the path of reestablishing peace in fraternal Lebanon and pave the way for spreading Lebanese sovereignty over all Lebanese territory. They have been realized thanks to Arab efforts, which were crowned by the resolutions of the Casablanca extraordinary summit which formed the Higher Arab Tripartite Committee, whose efforts yielded this good result.

The cabinet also expressed the Yemen Arab Republic's wishes to the new Lebanese leadership for success on the road to preserving Lebanon's unity and sovereignty. It also expressed hope that the fraternal Lebanese people will be able to preserve their national unity and amity among their sons, in order to enable the country to take up its pan-Arab role to confront the fateful issues facing the Arab nation.

'Abd-al-Ghani Greets USSR on October Revolution

JN0711124889 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Nov 89

[Text] Brother 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, has sent a cable of congratulations to the USSR Council of Ministers on the 72th anniversary of the October Revolution.

Salih Cables Anniversary Congratulations to Gorbachev

JN0611134089 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Nov 89

[Text] Brother Colonel President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, has cabled congratulations to His Excellency President Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU, and chairman of the Supreme Soviet, on the occasion of the 72d anniversary of the October socialist revolution.

Hungarian Trade Minister, Delegation Arrive 9 Nov

JN0911214689 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] (Doneski Kamas), Hungarian minister of foreign trade [title as heard], arrived in Sanaa this evening leading an official and trade delegation on a 5-day visit to our country. In a statement to SABA', the Hungarian official noted that, during the visit, he will hold economic and trade talks with officials in the Ministry of Economy, Supply, and Trade and the General Federation of Chambers of Commerce.

The Hungarian delegation was received by Brother Dr 'Abd-al-Wahhab Mahmud, minister of economy, supply, and trade; a number of officials from the ministry and

the General Federation of Chambers of Commerce; and
the non-resident Hungarian charge d'affaires in Sanaa.

AL-THAWRAH Criticizes U.S. Policy

Attacks Deal With Iran

*JN1011100989 Baghdad INA in Arabic
0830 GMT 10 Nov 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Nov (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has asserted that the new U.S.-Iranian deal, which was signed last Thursday, was not concluded without a proviso, which will cost Iran.

In an article published today, the newspaper adds: After that, it is not important if this proviso means freeing some hostages in Lebanon, stopping Tehran's support to its terrorist "militias," or halting the anti-U.S. campaigns. What is important is that this deal is an "advance payment" for future deals between the two parties.

The newspaper also refers to the most important meaning of this deal and the other similar deals which Iran is trying to close to attract some international parties to Iran, persuade them to court Iran, and conclude agreements with it.

The newspaper ridicules the media campaigns exchanged between Tehran and Washington, and asks: Is it possible for the mullahs to publicly contact the great Satan and reach agreement with him?

'Unfair Toward Arab Issues'

*JN1211113489 Baghdad INA in English
1010 GMT 12 Nov 89*

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 12, INA—AL-THAWRAH daily of Baghdad criticized American policies and stances which are imbalanced and unfair towards Arab issues.

A daily article here today said that direct and indirect contacts and compromises between Tehran and Washington had not ceased over the past years despite the overt deterioration of relations between the two sides.

It pointed out that it was a mistake to think that the U.S. Administration decision to release part of frozen Iranian funds was dictated by an American bet on the new Iranian leadership and especially on Rafsanjani, and that Khomeyni was the main obstacle for improving and normalizing U.S.-Iranian relations.

It further said that two big deals were concluded between Washington and Tehran during the era of Khomeyni, the first was releasing hostages at the American embassy and the second was the scandal of Irangate.

AL-THAWRAH stressed that the new deal between Tehran and Washington which comprised [as received] for granting Iran rulers 570 million dollars during the current month constitutes a political and material backing to Hashemi Rafsanjani's regime which has not changed any of its programmes and policies until now.

The daily said that this agreement came to assist the Hashemi Rafsanjani regime in surmounting some of its acute financial and economic problems. It further added that this deal would encourage the Iranian regime to further commit to its arrogance and procrastination in the peace negotiations with Iraq same as the previous two deals encouraged that regime to continue war for eight years.

UN Envoy Eliasson Arrives From Tehran

*JN1111205489 Baghdad INA in Arabic
2010 GMT 11 Nov 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Nov (INA)—Jan Eliasson, personal representative of the UN secretary general, arrived in Baghdad from Tehran this evening. In a statement to INA, Eliasson expressed his hope that his shuttling between Baghdad and Tehran will produce fruitful results that will guarantee the implementation of the provisions of Security Council Resolution No 598 to bring about peace between Iraq and Iran and in the whole region. He was received at the airport by Foreign Ministry officials and the members of the UN Iraq-Iran Military Observers Group in Baghdad.

Resumes Talks With 'Aziz

*JN1211191889 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1825 GMT 12 Nov 89*

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Nov (INA)—Official talks resumed here today between Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Jan Eliasson, personal representative of the UN secretary general.

INA says that the talks centered on ways to implement Security Council Resolution No 598 to bring about a comprehensive and lasting peace between Iraq and Iran and in the whole region.

The talks were attended by the Iraqi Foreign Ministry under secretary, Iraq's permanent representative at the United Nations, the head of the organizations and conferences department at the Foreign Ministry, and the head of the legal department at the Foreign Ministry. The members of Eliasson's delegation also attended the meeting. Eliasson arrived in Baghdad from Tehran last night.

INA Cites BAGHDAD OBSERVER on Trade

*JN0911150489 Baghdad INA in English
1215 GMT 9 Nov 89*

[All names as received]

[Text] Baghdad, Nov. 9, INA—Most of the participating countries and firms in this year's Baghdad International Fair (BIF), which started here on November 1, concluded trade deals with Iraqi clients worth millions of U.S. dollars, according to participants in this year's fair, the Iraqi English-language daily "THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER" said today.

The U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce, Mr Don Demarino told a press conference at the BIF that trade between Iraq and the United States increased to 2.6 billion dollars in 1988 from 1.2 billion dollars in the previous year.

"U.S. organisations are eager to participate in constructing development projects in Iraq, which is considered the third biggest U.S. trade partner in the Arab world", he said.

Demarino said the U.S. pavilion features products from 30 American firms exhibiting some of the best U.S. technology and know-how.

The main stand of the U.S. pavilion is the space technology presented by the United States Information Agency.

The stand features a fascinating selection from U.S. space technology.

Other exhibits include food and beverages, heavy construction equipment, advanced medical testing devices, photocopiers, air-conditioners, computers in addition to the products of other American firms which are shown at the fair through local agents.

Since diplomatic relations were restored in 1984 between Iraq and the U.S., trade between the two countries has been expanding. Now many American firms are involved in projects in Iraq.

Demarino said American firms are currently involved in mineral exploration and development fertilizer plants, and light industrial and manufacturing facilities.

The Soviet trade representative in Iraq, Mr Anatoli Kolotilin, said at a press conference held at his country's pavilion that the trade exchange between Iraq and the Soviet Union in 1988 reached more than 2 billion U.S. dollars.

He said this year Soviet firms concluded with Iraqi establishments more than 70 trade deals worth 120 million dollars. These deals are for bringing Soviet products next year.

Iraq and the USSR maintain a commission for economic, trade and technical cooperation set up in 1972, the commission holds an annual session alternately in Moscow and Baghdad.

The Soviet Union exports various types of machinery and equipment to Iraq.

Iraq exports to the Soviet Union oil, cigarettes, car spark plugs and others.

Soviet firms are participating in many projects in Iraq. They include water drainage systems, exploitation of oil fields in southern Iraq, a strategic oil pipeline, steel and iron industry.

Other projects which the Soviets are involved in are electro-technical plants, thermal power plants, a glass factory and grain silos.

At this year's fair, 29 Soviet firms are showing their products on a total area of 1,500 square metres.

The commercial counsellor at the Bulgarian Embassy in Baghdad, Mr Evgeni Chervenkov, told a press conference at his country's pavilion in the BIF that the trade exchange between Bulgaria and Iraq reached 120 million dollars in 1988.

He added that in 1989 Bulgarian exports to Iraq were worth more than 100 million dollars and he expects that the trade exchange of this year would reach more than that of 1988.

Bulgaria exports to Iraq medical equipment and pharmaceuticals, eggs for hatching, tomato paste, foodstuffs, metalcutting machines, water pumps, electric motors, and others.

Bulgaria takes part in the BIF regularly. At this year's fair its pavilion exhibits prototypes of machine-building plants, electrical and electronic engineering equipment, chemical industries, medical devices, construction and transport machinery, foodstuffs and various light industries.

Iraq and Bulgaria maintain a joint commission for economic, trade and technical cooperation. The commission held its 20th session in Sofia in February this year.

The session was chaired on the Iraqi side by Mr Taha Yasin Ramadhan, first deputy prime minister.

A leaflet published by the Bulgarian pavilion said that both Iraq and Bulgaria are keen to establish closer cooperation in all fields.

Director of the Pakistan pavilion, Mr Mohammed Aslam told the BAGHDAD OBSERVER that his country has been taking part in the fair since 1968.

More than 100 firms are showing their products on a total area of 204 square metres. In 1988 the size of the Pakistani pavilion was only 120 square metres, he added. For 1990, the Pakistani authorities have booked for 500 square metres.

Twenty Pakistani firms display their products, which include computers, television sets, military equipment, air conditioners, telephone sets, electrical typewriters, automobile spare parts for large vehicles, construction materials, leather, textiles and food products.

Mr Aslam expects trade between the two countries would expand "as Pakistan gives a lot of importance to the trade between the two countries".

The Pakistani minister of commerce, Mr Faisal Salah Hayat, arrived in Baghdad on November 7 to hold talks with Iraqi officials on enhancing trade cooperation.

Ten Canadian firms are taking part this year. Last year only three Canadian firms attended the fair. They show cars, agricultural products, industrial machinery, ambulances and other goods.

Director of the pavilion, Ms Lorraine Reardon said: "next year I think the Canadian participation would be bigger".

She added that a high ranking Canadian trade delegation is coming to Baghdad to attend the fair.

It includes assistant deputy minister of the Department of External Affairs, Mr Marc Perron, and the Director of the Middle East Trade Development Division, Mr Paul Dingledine.

The delegation will also hold talks with Iraqi officials on enhancing trade cooperation.

"Czechoslovakia attaches special attention to this year's BIF", a leaflet issued by the Czechoslovak pavilion said.

This year Czechoslovak firms show trucks, farm tractors and spare parts, construction equipment, water pumps, glass and ceramics, compressors, textiles, jewellery and others.

Iraq and Czechoslovakia maintain an agreement for trade cooperation. A joint commission for economic, trade and technical cooperation was set up in 1978.

The exchange of visits between officials of the two countries has led to signing many trade agreements. Iraq's first deputy prime minister, Mr Taha Yasin Ramadhan visited Czechoslovakia in 1986.

Trade exchange between the two countries reached 75.2 million U.S. dollars in 1987.

Director of the Czechoslovak pavilion, Mr Jindrich Junek, said the next session of the joint commission will be held in December.

"I believe the session will be attended by our minister of trade", he added.

International Trade Fair Participants Comment

JN1211151689 Baghdad INA in English
1120 GMT 12 Nov 89

[All names as received]

[Text] Baghdad, Nov. 12, INA—At this year's Baghdad International Fair (BIF), some 1,500 Arab and foreign companies are taking part. Most of these firms are involved in setting up development projects in Iraq, according to directors of some pavilions at the BIF which opened on November 1 and will continue until November 15.

THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER quoted Mr Milan Keserovic, director of the Yugoslav pavilion, as telling a press conference held on Friday, that Yugoslav firms are currently involved in building dams, the thermopower stations and electrical networks in various parts of the country, as well as a petrochemical project, water purification systems and others.

Mr Keserovic said that the total value of contracts Yugoslavia signed with Iraq so far is around 1.3 billion dollars. He said the volume of trade exchange between the two countries for the first nine months of 1989 reached 435.4 million dollars.

Iraqi exports to Yugoslavia amounted to 243.7 million dollars while Yugoslav exports to Iraq were 191.7 million dollars. In 1988 the trade exchange was 730.5 milion dollars, representing a 22 per cent increase over the figures of 1987. Yugoslav exports to Iraq include textiles, foodstuffs, furniture, car spare parts, rubber, steel and iron products and others.

Iraq and Yugoslavia maintain a joint commission on economic, trade and technical cooperation. Milan Keserovic said that the commission is expected to meet at the beginning of next December.

Rene Concan, the commercial attache at the Brazilian Embassy in Baghdad, said that his country's firms are currently involved in setting up a highway and an irrigaton project in Iraq. Brazilian firms also built Baghdad-Hadithah-al-'Akashat railway line.

Mr Concan said the volume of trade exchange between the two countries amounted to 1.4 billion dollars in 1988. The balance in trade exchange was in Iraq's favour as Brazilian imports from Iraq topped 1.1 billion dollars while Iraqi imports did not exceed 297 million dollars. In 1987, Iraqi exports to Brazil amounted to 1,436 million U.S. dollars, against a total of U.S. dollars 305 million representing Brazil's exports to Iraq in the same year. This year 10 Brazilian firms are taking part in the BIF. Last year the number was only seven.

Thirteen firms from the German Democratic Republic (GDR) are showing cars, motor-cycles, agricultural equipment, textile machinery, toys, typewriters, photocopying machinery, road building machinery, air-conditioning systems, cosmetics and others.

Iraq imports GDR trucks, pumping stations, textile machinery, machine tools, optical instruments, computers and other products. GDR firms have been involved in the implementation of a number of development projects in Iraq such as railway projects slaughterhouses, pumping stations, and others.

Fourteen Dutch firms are exhibiting electronics, fire-fighting equipment, protective clothing, large photocopying machines, stationery, water-pumps, construction material, livestock feed products, machinery for poultries, hydraulic systems for autos and others. One of the interesting stands at the pavilion is the livestock feed products presented by Holland Feed International. Director of the pavilion, Mr J.B.A.G. Polerman said that participating Dutch firms have concluded some deals with Iraqi clients.

Iraq exports mainly oil to the Netherlands. Agricultural products and machinery, communications equipment, construction equipment and other products are the main Dutch exports to Iraq. Trade cooperation between Iraq and the Netherlands has been growing. In 1984 both countries set up a joint commission on trade, economic and technical cooperation.

France this year is having a strong presence in the fair. Jean-Paul Stehlin, director of the French pavilion, told THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER that 65 French firms

(last year there were 48) are showing their products in an area of 1,800 square metres. The exhibits include highly sophisticated equipment, electrical devices, telecommunications systems, car tools, mechanical industries, foodstuffs, medical equipment, agricultural machinery and perfumes.

Mr Stehlin said the French Government "gives the Baghdad International Fair priority as one of the largest fairs in the Middle East".

Figures released last year indicated that for the first six months of 1988, the volume of trade exchange between the two countries reached 3.5 billion French francs. French imports from Iraq totalled 2.3 billion francs, while Iraqi imports from France came up to 1.1 billion francs.

Italy is also here. Dr Mario Adragna, director the Italian pavilion, said that 39 Italian firms are showing their proucts. He added that 60 per cent of the participating firms were contacted by Iraqi clients to buy the machinery on display.

The exhibits include various kinds of machinery, spare parts for packaging machines, trailers, semitrailers, tankers, machines for food industry, various types of construction machinery, plastic bag-making machines, water pumps, chemical products for building industry, ice cream-making machines and others.

Dr Adragna said that in 1988 Italian imports from Iraq reached 996.4 million dollars while Iraqi imports from Italy was 205 million dollars.

The fair also contains the Austrian touch. Forty-six Austrian firms are showing their products of machines, pulps, timber, textiles, medical equipment, pharmaceutical products, foodstuffs, trucks, traffic lights, ice-cream machines and irrigation systems.

Mr Heinx Jhenmeyer, the commercial attache at the Austrian Embassy in Baghdad said that, in 1988, Austrian exports to Iraq totalled 160 million dollars, against an Austrian import figure of 40 million dollars. Up to August this year, Austrian exports to Iraq reached 130 million dollars and its imports from Iraq were only 0.13 million dollars. Iraqi exports to Austria include oil, skins, wool and dates.

Soviet Economic Academy Chairman Arrives

JN0911155889 Baghdad INA in English
1425 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Baghdad, Nov. 9, INA—Deputy Chairman of the Soviet Economic Affairs Academy Mr Acken Picken [name as received] and his accompanying delegation arrived here today on a several-day visit to Iraq.

Mr Picken told INA that he would hold talks with the Iraqi officials on preparations to sign a new agreement between Iraq and the Soviet Union in the fields of developing industrial and trade relations and exchanging expertise between the two countries.

Minister Meets Soviet Academic, OAPEC Leader

JN1111151789 Baghdad INA in English
1340 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 11, INA—Iraqi Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd-al-Rahim met here today visiting Soviet Economic Academy vice-chairman Aganbigoyan [name as received].

During the meeting, the two officials discussed means of boosting bilateral cooperation.

Meanwhile, Mr 'Abd-al-Rahim held talks with visiting secretary general of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Wattari on topics related to the forthcoming OAPEC ministerial meeting due in Abu Dhabi this month.

Soviet Minister Arrives for Oil, Gas Talks

JN1211211089 Baghdad INA in Arabic
2025 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Nov (INA)—Vladimir Grigoryevich Chirskov, USSR minister of construction of petroleum and gas industry enterprises, arrived here today heading a delegation visiting Iraq for several days.

In a statement to INA the minister said he is glad to be visiting Iraq. He will be holding talks with Iraqi officials covering bilateral cooperation in the areas of gas oil and gas industry, the minister said.

Sudanese Revolution Council Member Begins Visit

Met by Sa'dun Sahkir

JN1111213489 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
2100 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] Staff Colonel Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, member of the Sudanese National Salvation Revolution Command Council, this evening arrived in Baghdad leading a delegation on a visit to Iraq which will last several days.

He was received at the airport by Sa'dun Shakir, member of the Revolution Command Council; the head of the Foreign Ministry's Arab Department; and the Sudanese charge d'affaires in Baghdad.

Received by Information Minister

JN1211130489 Baghdad INA in English
1140 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] Baghdad, Nov. 12, INA—Mr Latif Nusayyif Jasim received today Mr Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, member of Sudan's National Salvation Revolution Command Council and his accompanying delegation.

During the meeting bilateral relations and means of cementing them were reviewed.

Talks With 'Izzat Ibrahim

JN1211164689 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1600 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Nov (INA)—'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC], has received Staff Colonel Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, member of the Sudanese National Salvation Revolution Command Council, and his delegation.

During the meeting, 'Izzat Ibrahim received a written message addressed to President Saddam Husayn from his brother Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese National Salvation Revolution Command Council.

'Izzat Ibrahim then asked the Sudanese official to convey President Saddam Husayn's greetings to his brother 'Umar Ahmad al-Bashir, as well as his best wishes that the Sudanese people will achieve further progress and prosperity.

The Sudanese official expressed his country's appreciation for and pride in Iraq's principled position toward Sudan. The meeting was attended by RCC member Sa'dun Shakir.

Bulgaria's Khristo Khristov Arrives for Fair

JN1211165489 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1525 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Nov (INA)—Khristo Khristov, minister at the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, and his delegation arrived in Baghdad today to attend the 26th Baghdad International Fair.

At the airport, Khristov said that Bulgaria's participation in this fair seeks to activate economic relations between the two countries, that Bulgarian companies have increased the volume of their participation in the fair, and that 23 Bulgarian companies specializing in heavy and technical industry are participating. He was received at the airport by Umid Midhat Mubarak, minister of labor and social affairs.

Confers With Trade Minister

JN1211210589 Baghdad INA in Arabic
2020 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Nov (INA)—Muhammad Mahdi Salih, Iraqi minister of trade affairs, has met with Khristo Khristov, minister at the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, who is now visiting Iraq. During the meeting, they discussed relations and ways to promote trade between the two countries. It has been learned that Khristov is visiting Iraq to attend the 26th Baghdad International Fair.

Yugoslav Minister Concludes Visit, Departs

JN1311133989 Baghdad INA in English
1200 GMT 13 Nov 89

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 13, INA—Mr Radisa Gacic, Yugoslav minister of labour, public health, war veterans and social security [title as received], left Baghdad this morning, winding up a several-day visit to Iraq.

During his stay, Mr Gacic attended the 26th Baghdad International Fair and held talks with Iraqi officials on means of developing bilateral trade and health cooperation.

Shamir's Meetings With U.S. Jewry 'Important'

TA0911154789 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Excerpt] There still has not been an official announcement in Washington about a meeting between President George Bush and Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. That is perhaps the reason that Mr Shamir said today that he would be very happy if such a meeting takes place, but that it is also important today to hold meetings with U.S. Jewry because of expected waves of new immigrants. Our correspondent Yaron Deqel has the details:

The prime minister referred briefly to his possible meeting with the U.S. President, as well as referring to George Bush's indications of uncertainty about whether such a meeting will take place at all. In a meeting with the National Religious Party [NRP] Knesset faction in his office, Shamir made it clear that he will go to the United States whether he meets with Bush or not. The prime minister said he would be very happy if a meeting with the U.S. President takes place, since each meeting with a U.S. President is important, but it is also important today to hold meetings with U.S. Jewry, especially before the expected waves of new immigrants.

The prime minister said that, although there have always been differences of opinion with the United States, we nevertheless managed to maintain the special relationship between the two countries. We want a peace we can live with, Shamir said, while for the United States the conditions of peace are of secondary importance. Yitzhaq Shamir also pointed out that he saw as one of his duties the need to remain firm over Israel's interests while at the same time maintaining friendly relations with the United States. [passage omitted]

Shamir Says Pressures 'Have Never Succeeded'

TA1011060189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said last night that diplomatic pressures on Israel have never succeeded and he does not believe that anybody is using them. In a talk with our correspondent Nava Kohen, the prime minister said he would be pleased to confer with President George Bush. The prime minister attended two Histadrut election rallies in the south.

[Begin recording] [Shamir] You want me to evaluate U.S. diplomacy. You cannot really expect that from me. The United States is the largest country in the world. Israel is an important country, but a small one.

[Kohen] But there is a feeling that the Americans are exerting pressure on Israel.

[Shamir] I believe that whoever has had dealings and ties with Israel knows that pressures on Israel have never succeeded. Therefore, I do not believe that anybody is using them.

[Kohen] Ministers Sharon, Levi, and Moda'i want to reconvene the Likud Central Committee to debate Baker's five points. Do you believe that the initiative will receive Central Committee backing?

[Shamir] There is no problem. When the need arises we will convene the Likud Central Committee and it will reach a resolution.

[Kohen] Would you be prepared to put it to the test?

[Shamir] Why not? The Central Committee can decide on anything. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Reasons for Baker Plan's Acceptance Reviewed

TA1011091489 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 10 Nov 89 p B1

[Report on interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Dov Goldstein on 7 November; place not given]

[Text] In the respite between the exhausting fight with the Alignment over the Baker plan and his trip to Washington, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir does not need anybody to console him.

"It is not so bad," he says, "I am used to it. It is tough to be a Jew and it is even tougher to lead the Jewish state and head its government. But if I had to get worked up about it I would have quit long ago. What is needed is levelheadedness, a sense of proportion, and most of all, great faith that we will emerge strengthened from all these struggles. I have such faith, and it gives me strength."

[Goldstein] Still, your situation differs from that of your predecessors. You are fighting three fronts at the same time: The United States, the coalition partner, and the farming front....

Shamir laughs heartily only about the latter. In the Prime Minister's Office, among the ministers close to him and his personal aides, there is no doubt that the farmer (Ari'el Sharon) among the constraints ministers is the spiritual author of the agricultural allegory whereby the prime minister is a "rotten apple" and Ministers Olmert, Milo, and Meridor are "worms with a voracious appetite feeding on the rotten apple."

As far as Shamir's associates are concerned, Sharon's agricultural background puts David Levi and Yitzhaq Moda'i in the clear. Faithful to the principle of exercising leniency and conciliation on domestic issues and adopting a rigid and firm position on foreign affairs, the prime minister does not join the speculators. "I do not care who it is, I do not check his identity. This is rude, and I hate rudeness and rude people. Such rudeness will come back to hit anybody who says such words about the Israeli prime minister, who happens to be a fellow party member.

"I have read in all sort of papers that I am going to fire the ministers who objected to the Baker plan if they do this or that. Let it be clear: No such words ever came out of my mouth. Political parties have ways of dealing with disputes among fellow members of the leadership. The

Central Committee will convene and will choose between my way and that of the three objecting ministers. I have no doubt that I will have the upper hand. I objected to summoning the Central Committee only because I did not want it to meet before the Histadrut elections. Once the Likud Central Committee meets and endorses my position, if the three continue to act against the Cabinet resolution I may have to reach conclusions and take action against them. Today, however, I am not dealing with any such possibility."

Hence, "only" the first two fronts are left: The United States and the Alignment.

Says the prime minister: "I read in a cable sent by our ambassador to the United States this week that a senator sympathetically told him that when he sees the tough problems this small country has to deal with, only insofar as its relations with the United States are concerned—the question of South Africa, the PLO and the negotiations, and Baker's points—he simply does not understand how we can survive all these hardships. The answer is simple and unequivocal: This is what we have! This is what we have to live with and deal with! One can easily despair, give up, and say: We cannot take it anymore, we have had enough. Not me! We will come out of all these struggles unscathed! I am sure of it!

[Goldstein] What was the sense of the protracted bickering with Secretary of State Baker? After all, the amendments he agreed to introduce to his five-point plan are minor and worthless. You vehemently objected to the plan, but in the end you agreed to it. Why did you change your mind?

[Shamir] Only because of the assurances the United States gives us, only because of our six points. Had it not been for these assurances, I would have persisted in my opposition to the five-point plan. Had Baker not said that he was prepared to provide those assurances, I would not have agreed under any circumstances whatsoever.

[Goldstein] But there are no assurances from the United States at this point either. After all, Israel's six points were formulated by the Israeli Cabinet and not by the U.S. Administration. Moreover, the Alignment refused to define the assurances Israel demands from the United States as a prerequisite for the acceptance of the Baker plan or to stipulate that Israel accepts the plan subject to assurances. What happens if the United States rejects Israel's six points?

[Shamir] Why should I argue with the Americans today, on the eve of my trip to the United States? Why should I say words that might enrage them? I do not have to do that. I will simply say the following: If Baker says that he accepts four of our six points... then we will see. I must fight for our goal, for insisting on Israel's security and survival requirements, maintaining national unity, and making progress toward the implementation of the peace plan. If contradictions occasionally emerge among these goals, that is where ingenious maneuvering is called for; we maneuver among the three.

The difference between the United States and us is that what is important to them is that there should be peace here, and they do not care all that much about the terms. We care about the terms because we are the ones who have to live with and amid this peace. If we enter this struggle divided, the entire world will take advantage of the split in our ranks. Rifts within the Jewish people have been a long-standing tradition. If we do not stand united, the United States and the Arabs will take advantage of it. The more united we are—and the unity government is a reflection of the people's unity—the fewer concessions we will have to make to others on the outside. This is also very important as regards the unity of U.S. Jewry and their support for us.

[Goldstein] What happens if the United States accepts a list of Palestinian delegates that includes deportees or PLO men from outside the territories?

[Shamir] Then the Israeli delegation would not go to Cairo and there would be no negotiations.

[Goldstein] And what if at the first session the Palestinian delegation were to declare that it was acting on behalf of and deriving its authority from the PLO?

[Shamir] That very same moment the Israeli delegation would get up and leave. There is no argument on this point between the Likud and the Alignment. I posed that question, using exactly the same words, to Peres and Rabin in our meeting at Peres' house last Friday. Exactly those same words! Both of them replied, without wavering: The Israeli delegation will get up and leave!

[Goldstein] And if the delegation includes Arab residents of East Jerusalem?

[Shamir] The Alignment agrees, but I firmly object. There will be no such thing. The Americans are aware of my unequivocal position. There should be no such representatives in the delegation to the talks in Cairo, although the Palestinian delegation is entitled to demand voting rights for the Arabs of Jerusalem. I will object, but if the Alignment agrees to it, that would be cause to call for elections. It is a serious and important enough issue to go to elections for.

[Goldstein] Why did you go back on your demand to define Israel's six points as a condition or, at least, to stipulate that acceptance of Baker's plan is subject to the assurances demanded by Israel? Only because the Alignment objected?

[Shamir] First of all, let me tell you something. The Alignment objected to the term on condition [bitnay], and one of the members of the forum of four—I do not recall whether it was Peres or Rabin—proposed the English term subject to [last two words in English], and we agreed. Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein translated it literally to bekafuf. Rabin and Peres were taken aback, and somebody said that we surprised them with a wording that they found unacceptable. So, you should know that neither I nor Arens, but rather Rabin or Peres was the one who proposed this term. We agreed on the term on the assumption that [behanaha], and believe me,

I do not see a big difference. If you say that you agree to something on the assumption that your demands for assurances are met, it is absolutely clear that this is a condition, and that if the assumptions are not fulfilled you will not accept what you agreed to accept.

Are you asking me whether it was so important to me to prevent the Alignment from quitting and the disbandment of the government that I agreed to Baker's five points? Well, I admit it and I am not ashamed, not at all. Indeed, one must be realistic. If the Alignment stands a chance of forming a narrow-based government, that is a grave danger. I can live with the compromise we attained, but not with the concessions the Alignment would be prepared to make were they in the government alone. Anyway, Peres said that Baker's five points should be accepted as they are, in full. So what is the big "fuss" now? There is a hue and cry... but what has happened in the meantime? We will not sit with the PLO; the Arabs of East Jerusalem will not participate; we will not discuss land for peace. The situation is exactly as it was before, and the government continues to exist.

One must understand that the main test of a government made up of two political blocs holding opposite ideologies lies in its ability to generate a joint product and fight for it on the outside. The six points appended to the decision to accept the Baker plan are a joint product. Our entire peace initiative was a joint product based on a compromise between the two components of the government. Often in Cabinet sessions Alignment ministers say: "Ah, had this government been in our control we would have worded it differently," while Likud ministers say: "Ah, had this government been in our control...." But this government is neither in their control nor ours, and that is why it is a government that can generate joint products in which each side gives in a little bit to the other side.

[Goldstein] Were you influenced by the fact that you were not accorded an audience with President Bush? Is that why you gave in?

[Shamir] Not at all! I am going to the United States to address the national convention of Jewish federations, even though a meeting has not yet been set up with Bush. It is very important to confer with U.S. Administration leaders, but I do not know whether there will be a meeting with the President; this did not influence my decisions.

Invitation to Bush Meeting 'Was Expected'

TA1011052389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will confer with the U.S. President at the White House on Wednesday. Our Washington correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that the White House sent an official invitation to Shamir last night. The decision to send the invitation was made during a meeting between President Bush and Secretary of State Baker and the national security adviser. Our correspondent reports that Mr Shamir's agenda currently includes working sessions with President Bush and Secretary Baker and a series of meetings with congressmen in Washington. Shamir will then fly to Cincinnati for the annual conference of U.S. Jewish communities.

The Prime Minister's Office told our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen that the invitation to Shamir for a meeting with President Bush was expected. The prime minister is sure that a meeting between him and the U.S. president will serve to advance the Middle East peace process and U.S.-Israeli relations. The Prime Minister's Office says the delays in the publication of the invitation was because the U.S. President wanted first to hear the opinion of his secretary of state.

Shamir Discusses Peace Plan, Europe, Jordan

TA1111103089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 11 Nov 89

["Special" interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Ze'e Kohen on the "Weekly Newsreel" program; time and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Kohen] Mr Prime Minister, on Wednesday you will be meeting President Bush. The invitation for the meeting with the President at the White House was only issued at the end of last week, and some people perceived some hesitation in setting a date for the meeting as a signal sent by the United States to show its dissatisfaction. Do you also see things this way?

[Shamir] I will not discuss this. I will of course attend the meeting and try to make the most of it. I am not only meeting the President. There will be a series of meetings in Washington: a meeting of several hours with the secretary of state. I will visit the Congress, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. I will also meet with special groups of U.S. Congressmen and with selected Jewish leaders.

The peace initiative permits us to work together with the United States in furthering the peace process, even though Israel and the United States do not see eye to eye on the question of the permanent settlements destined for the end of the process. What is necessary is gradual concerted activity that will take place step by step according to the stages and according to the route delineated by the Israeli peace initiative.

[Kohen] You talk of stages, and the first clause is the composition of the Palestinian delegation. It is known that Israel is adamantly opposed to the inclusion of Arabs who do not reside in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip, as well as East Jerusalem residents. Do you feel that the search for a Palestinian delegation will take a long time?

[Shamir] We are talking about only one thing: a meeting with a group of Arabs from Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip to discuss the election modalities—nothing more than this—just election modalities. In my opinion, these should be people with a technical background,

people with some experience in holding elections, with whom we will discuss election procedures only. The other matters—the essential issues that demand negotiation, for example the autonomy, and what will come after it—will be negotiated with those who are elected.

[Kohen] And do you believe we will find them?

[Shamir] I believe it is possible.

[Kohen] Mr Prime Minister, let's give the Middle East a break for a minute and look at what is happening in Europe. There are those who would consider the events taking place in Europe—in the GDR and the FRG—to be terribly dramatic. The Berlin Wall is collapsing, people are crossing the border.

[Shamir] Undoubtedly. What is happening today in Eastern Europe is an earthquake. It is a tremendous revolution emanating from the people, and I think it will lead to great changes in the international political, and perhaps also economic situation. We will soon witness far-reaching permutations. I think these changes can also cause various problems that the international community has still not had time to fully comprehend; for example, the question of Germany's future, the future of the two Germanies. Will there be any justification for the continued existence of two Germanies? Will the European countries countenance one united Germany? This is a question that the European leaders have already begun to consider and ruminate upon, and I do not know what their conclusions will be.

Very interesting processes are taking place in other Eastern European countries as well. They have not yet achieved any degree of stability. This will probably still take some time. In the meantime, however, this period of instability comprises many dangers. Nobody knows just what will happen in the Soviet Union and to what extent its current leadership will succeed in seriously improving the economic situation. Success on the economic front will greatly determine the Soviet leadership's chances in controlling the very forces they awakened. We are living in a really exciting and tumultuous period. There has never been such a sudden blooming of democracy.

What is regrettable is the fact that all these positive developments have not come to the Middle East. We discern no movement toward greater democracy in the Middle East, no movement in the direction of more peace, or toward more understanding. I must say that the only contribution in the Middle East in the direction of peace is the Israeli peace initiative.

[Kohen] You bring us back to the Middle East, and we hear that King Husayn permitted elections in Jordan. It appears, however, that things went a bit awry and now the king himself is worried. Can Israel allow itself to remain complacent regarding developments there?

[Shamir] No. We certainly cannot remain complacent. After all, the occurrences there are only a 1-hour drive from us. Israel is monitoring the developments in Jordan with great interest. I think that it is still early to make any judgments and predict what will happen there in the near or more distant future. I believe we will know more in a few weeks, when we are in possession of the exact figures, and see how they affect life in Jordan.

Shamir Interviewed on GDR, U.S. Visit, PLO

TA1311075289 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 13 Nov 89

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Natan Gutman on 13 November; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Shamir] There is no doubt that the great developments and changes in the GDR will influence and affect the Middle East because, after all, the world is small these days and anything taking place in one part of the world has ramifications throughout the entire planet. It is still difficult to say exactly how these events will affect the Middle East and the State of Israel.

[Gutman] Some people speak of a possible reunification of the two Germanies. What, in your opinion, should Israel's position be regarding this possibility?

[Shamir] Well, right now the question is still irrelevant, even though it is already being discussed. Everyone understands that the Jewish people have a unique attitude toward this issue. Germany, when it was larger and a huge military power, committed a terrible crime against the Jewish people, and this will no doubt influence the State of Israel's position when the issue of German reunification crops up on the international agenda.

[Gutman] Do you think Israel should formulate a position on this issue?

[Shamir] At this time, I do not think Israel should discuss it. Israel has enough issues of its own to worry about.

[Gutman] Mr Shamir, with your permission, let us move on to the political situation on the eve of your departure for the United States. Do you feel there is a chance that the United States will accept the list of guarantees Israel requested in the Inner Cabinet resolution?

[Shamir] I hope so, because after all these are basically elementary requests which stem from Israel's most crucial needs.

[Gutman] To what extent are you willing to compromise? Can we compromise at all on this issue?

[Shamir] Well, I do not think that there is any room for haggling. At any rate, I will not begin haggling right now over the radio.

[Gutman] In yesterday's Cabinet session both we and the ministers were apprised of the PLO position, which is actually the Egyptian viewpoint, regarding the negotiations. The PLO has submitted a series of demands of its own, demands which totally run counter to the Israeli position. Do you think we can arrive at negotiations under such conditions?

[Shamir] I am not at all contemplating the possibility of negotiating with the PLO. Everyone knows we will not talk to the PLO. The issue is not under consideration at this time, and it never will be.

[Gutman] Nevertheless, Egypt, which Israel considers a partner to the negotiations, is the one passing on the PLO demands and representing the organization.

[Shamir] Well, Egypt is fulfilling a certain role in the contacts taking place between Israel and the United States, but this role is not decisive.

[Gutman] Today, on the eve of your departure to the United States, how would you estimate the chances of a meeting between an Israeli and a Palestinian delegation actually taking place in Cairo?

[Shamir] It quite simply must be understood that we are not talking about some kind of historic meeting that will change the course of events in our region. We are not talking about a delegation or a representation, because negotiations will be held with the people that will be elected—and I mean elected after the elections. For the moment, we are only discussing one thing: how to conduct popular elections that will enjoy the residents' support.

[Gutman] What about the demand that the delegation to Cairo will include no Palestinians from outside the territories or residents of East Jerusalem? Does Israel consider this demand an ultimatum?

[Shamir] I think that at this stage, there is no need to set any sort of precedent that might influence the course of future negotiations over the temporary arrangements and the permanent settlement. It is therefore logical and beneficial to limit the meeting to an Israeli delegation and a Palestinian delegation made up solely of residents of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip.

[Gutman] Talking about U.S.-Israeli relations, it seemed to take a long time for President Bush to send the official invitation for a meeting with you at the White House. Were you hurt by the way the U.S. Administration behaved?

[Shamir] Look, I do not know what exactly went on there. At any rate, all that belongs to the past, and I do not deal with the past; I look to the future.

[Gutman] Thank you, Mr Prime Minister.

Peres: Majority Favors Territorial Compromise

TA0911184289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Vice Premier Shim'on Peres has said that, for the first time, a clear majority in the Knesset favors a territorial compromise. Peres, speaking to representatives of the building trade in Tel Aviv, said two religious parties have expressed the view that saving lives takes precedence over retaining the whole of the biblical Land of Israel. He was referring to SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] and Agudat Yisra'el.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1800 GMT on 9 Nov 89 reports that, responding to Peres' remarks, the Likud Knesset faction said "he was acting contrary to the government's guidelines and is weakening its position on the eve of the prime minister's trip to the United States on an important political mission." The faction also said that Mr Peres' facts were incorrect.]

Shamir Refutes Peres' Remarks

TA0911202889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this evening attacked Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres for saying that there is a majority in the Knesset that supports a territorial compromise. Shamir said that Peres is already counting the votes with which he will destroy national unity and set up a narrow-based government. Shamir said such a government would mean misfortune for Israel [pun on the Hebrew word "tzara" which means both narrow and misfortune]. Shamir asked if this was Peres' message to the people. He also wondered why national unity must be broken, and why we must agree to a territorial compromise. Shamir asked if the reason was the establishment of a Palestinian state whose capital would be Jerusalem.

Our correspondent Hassan Abu-Ziyad reports that the prime minister was speaking at a Likud rally in Beersheba.

Peres Notes 'Basic Guarantees' in Baker Plan

TA1211064289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Telephone interview with Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and finance minister, by Shalom Qital—live]

[Excerpt] [Qital] Shalom, Mr Peres.

[Peres] Shalom.

[Qital] Are you not worried by the report that the Americans have at least hinted that they will not fully back us on the issue of the guarantees requested by Israel?

[Peres] Certainly I am concerned about this. At the same time, one must remember that the purpose of all negotiations is to overcome difficulties. I am not surprised that there are differences; I am not surprised by the fact that the Egyptians are demanding one thing while we are demanding another. This lies at the heart of the matter, and that is why we want negotiations. I think that in negotiations, the parties cannot just come armed with ultimatums. One must listen to everything.

Regarding the five points, we have at least two basic guarantees: one saying that if the composition of the Palestinian delegation is unacceptable to us, we will be under no obligation to participate in the talks; and second, that in the process of negotiations, as it was

phrased, the Palestinian delegation should take a positive attitude toward Israel's peace initiative. In brief, the five points already contain at least two guarantees of supreme importance.

[Qital] Mr Peres, if you were to skip the interim stages, such as meetings on certain levels, a summit meeting between Prime Minister Shamir and President George Bush, and various other meetings that will undoubtedly be held, when you look ahead 1 or 2 years and try to predict the future, are you optimistic that Israel and its neighbors will conduct negotiations over an Israeli-Palestinian peace?

[Peres] Look, those who look ahead very often fail to see what happens under their very noses. If you had asked me or I had asked you a year ago whether the Berlin Wall would fall within such a short time, we could never have predicted it. You know, even 2 weeks ago people were wary of such a forecast. We are living in a world of tremendous dynamics, in which a strong protest against wars and conflicts is being shown. Of course, we also have people who embrace the truths of yesterday. At the same time, one must note the revolutionary change that has occurred in the world, which I would describe as having three main characteristics: the lack of desire to get embroiled in future wars—that is, total demilitarization of foreign relations; nonrecognition of any political boundaries where economic issues are concerned—in other words, an international economy; and in the individual countries themselves, a process of democratization—meaning elections and the rejection of dictators, revolutions, revolutionary councils, and the like.

These are three major changes which no revolution—neither the French Revolution nor the Communist Revolution—could have anticipated. In fact, both revolutions fell victim to their lack of understanding of where the world was heading. This process will continue next year. There is no reason why it should get stuck in mid-course. This is what the young people want. They see no point in reverting to wars, hatred, or conflicts again. They are asking: What for? [passage omitted]

Peres Discusses 'Possibility' of New Initiative

TA1311090589 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 13 Nov 89

[Report by Roni Sofer]

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres does not rule out the possibility of a new political initiative being formulated if necessary, upon Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's return from the United States. Peres pointed out, however, that he does not consider such a new political plan to be necessary today, on the eve of Prime Minister Shamir's departure for the United States. Peres asserted that he believes that the six points the Inner Cabinet appended to the Baker plan will be acceptable to the U.S. Administration.

Following a final Histadrut election rally in Beersheba, Vice Prime Minister Peres said that he cannot discern any worsening in the U.S. attitude toward Israel. According to Peres, there is no truth to the view that the Bush administration is harder on Israel than previous U.S. Administrations:

[Begin Peres recording] So far, I think this assumption is total groundless. I think they have shown many signs of friendship. When the United States threatens us—and I say threatens with quotation marks—they are not threatening us with pressure; they threaten us by implying they will abandon the process. They claim that the United States, after all, is no more and no less interested in peace than Israel. The United States says: If you are interested and want to move ahead with us, then let us move ahead. [end recording]

Peres asserts that we must maintain a friendly relationship with the United States. He added that the United States and Israel should not use menacing tones when talking to each other. Peres said that there is no reason to question our friendship with the United States.

Moda'i on Baker Plan, Shamir's Trip to U.S.

TA1111122689 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0905 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Studio Interview with Economics and Planning Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i by 'Adi Talmor on the "Weekly View of Current Affairs" program—live]

[Text] [Talmor] The prime minister is leaving for the United States and several other destinations this week, while the Likud constraints ministers, with Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i among them, are staying here. Mr Moda'i, you are our guest today. Good morning.

[Moda'i] Good morning.

[Talmor] Sir, I request your permission beforehand but I really feel like asking you in simple language, which is not diplomatic and perhaps even not suitable for the radio, just what do you and your friends, the constraints ministers, really want from Shamir and Arens?

[Moda'i] First of all, we wish Prime Minister Shamir success in his trip because this visit is very important for the State of Israel. All we ask is what they ask for themselves—no more. The prime minister has his political path, his political position, and a policy which has been adapted to the outline of the Israeli Government's peace initiative. We understand that Baker's five points—as the prime minister himself understood them—deviate or at least do not necessarily continue the peace initiative.

[Talmor] If that is the case, why do you wish Shamir success?

[Moda'i] That is the reason the prime minister, on behalf of the Inner Cabinet, asked that guarantees be added to the five points. One can either call them guarantees to be added to the five points, or guarantees against some of the five points, depending on how one understands things. This is the very issue I wish Shamir success on. I hope he will receive the guarantees because if he does not

get them then the Baker five-point plan, which we have already accepted, holds too many dangers—even according to Shamir's own stated opinion.

[Talmor] If this is really how things stand on the eve of Shamir's departure for the United States, why do the constraints ministers still demand the urgent convening of the Likud Central Committee to bolster your position?

[Moda'i] We wanted to use this forum to state our reservations, and perhaps achieve the cancellation or rejection of the Baker initiative before we respond in the affirmative, and before the prime minister leaves for the United States.

[Talmor] And this did not happen and most likely will not take place before Shamir leaves.

[Moda'i] No, it cannot happen now because the prime minister opposed it, and according to Likud regulations his agreement is required before the central committee can be convened. To be honest, I am sorry about this. The country would appear to be backward—on the contrary, the country and the party would seem progressive—because after all this is how the decisionmaking process is conducted. But that is spilt milk and all that is left for me to do is to hope for maximum success—we will see what that will be—and then we will have to evaluate the newly developed state of affairs.

[Talmor] Mr Moda'i, I have the feeling, and correct me if I am wrong, that I can sense a more moderate tone in your statements, as compared to statements we heard from your colleagues Sharon and Levi following the Inner Cabinet session this week. It seems that everything is relatively all right and, so far, developments are compatible with your opinions.

[Moda'i] No, no, no, I never said that. I am seriously worried, but on the eve of the prime minister's trip we are obliged to try and achieve a maximum of success—on behalf of our own beliefs as well.

[Talmor] You are careful to maintain a moderate, somewhat gentle tone.

[Moda'i] I would not call my tone gentle, but I am certainly not speaking my mind.

[Talmor] Why?

[Moda'i] Because I feel that this could handicap the prime minister's exposition of the issues. By the way, I have no doubts—not even for an instant—as to the prime minister's intentions or the goals he has set for himself. None of us entertain any doubt on these. Our doubt stems from our concern as to whether Shamir can really succeed, according to his own understanding, in blocking a process which, even by his own opinion, has strayed from the path he himself set. We have doubts as to whether this is possible. We say that one's maneuvers acquire an inertia of their own once you set out on a certain path, and subsequent alterations are no longer simply subject to the will of this or that party. It is not that simple. All possible ramifications must be considered in advance because, God forbid, things may not turn out as you planned.

[Talmor] In other words, I am safe in assuming from the tone of your statements, if not from the actual statements themselves, that at this time you at least support the prime minister and the direction in which he is leading us.

[Moda'i] It is not a question of supporting the prime minister's position. There is a Cabinet decision. There is an Inner Cabinet decision at this moment.

[Talmor] That you opposed.

[Moda'i] That I opposed. But that does not entitle me to freely decide my own position. I must either accept the ruling of the majority or reject it.

[Talmor] Do you accept it?

[Moda'i] I also accepted the Israeli peace initiative after opposing it when it was submitted at the time. But the minute the Cabinet decided to endorse it my colleagues and I accepted it. If in this interview you expected to hear me say that I would do all in my power to sabotage the prime minister's trip, or encourage the Americans not to accept our conditions or assumptions, you will be sadly mistaken. A member of a collective body such as a Cabinet or an Inner Cabinet is not permitted to express an independent position. I am sorry that just this action happens quite often in our government, but not by me. If we have any dispute between us, it is an internal struggle over opinions and over the proper means to achieve our goals. I not only think this is legitimate, I also consider it desirable in a real democracy.

[Talmor] Mr Moda'i, when you wish Prime Minister Shamir success in his trip to the United States, we understand what you mean by success. But what would constitute a failure to achieve success, in your opinion?

[Moda'i] In my opinion, failure to achieve success is exactly what the Inner Cabinet decided upon, although I expressed my opposition. Because if Baker's five points are accepted without any or most of our conditions, or—to use the language of the written document—our assumptions being fulfilled, I will regard it as a failure. I will consider it a dictate that endangers or places many perils in Israel's path. And I will consider the actual initiative to have been a mistake from the very beginning. I am making myself crystal clear.

[Talmor] And what steps would we be obliged to take in such a situation?

[Moda'i] First of all what do you mean by we? If you mean the government....

[Talmor, interrupting] I am referring to the Israeli Government.

[Moda'i] The government is not made up of one fabric, and when we reach a compromise between ourselves we think it binds some third party, but we are wrong. So we

have created some sort of strange situation in which we compromise with the Alignment and make these lukewarm decisions, with the constraints ministers being compelled by a majority vote to support some sort of position, while at the same time the constraints ministers are used against the Alignment when, in Shamir's opinion, the Alignment gets out of hand. This is a useful technique, but it cannot be practiced for long.

[Talmor] In summary, Mr Moda'i, let me ask you: Have we been negotiating with the PLO throughout this entire political process?

[Moda'i] If the question is a formal one which must be answered beyond any doubt, then I, on the basis of my personal knowledge, cannot make that claim. But if the question is on the general political level and I am allowed to judge on the basis of all kinds of signs and moves taking place, then there is no doubt that we are indirectly talking with the PLO, because otherwise, our interlocutors could have given us answers on the spot. But we are familiar with the process: After we pose a question or a condition, we receive an answer after the PLO is consulted and after it says that our query is acceptable to it, but that it wants another condition in return. This is what we will have to confront, and quite soon, I believe.

If the PLO does not reject the five points, we will have succeeded. It will not mean, however, that we will not have participated in a game of Russian roulette. If the PLO does accept the five points, it will present conditions opposite to ours. As far as I am familiar with diplomatic and political processes, the United States is liable to use various verbal guises to accept both the conditions and the counterconditions. What will we have achieved by that? We will be carrying on the same game.

[Talmor] Nevertheless, have you not accepted what you described as indirect negotiations with the PLO?

[Moda'i] Recent developments indicate that this is the current situation, and I cannot deny that this is so. Nor will I join those who resort to ostrich tactics. This appears to be the state of things: The United States converses openly with the PLO and, naturally, with us. The PLO has two channels at its disposal to inspect each move of ours: a direct channel via the United States, and another via Egypt. We all know they hold regular sessions. Each time an acute problem arises, the Palestinian Council convenes after its emissaries in Cairo probe the general situation or the conditions we presented.

[Talmor] Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i, we thank you for this interview, and we, too, wish the prime minister success on his U.S. visit.

[Moda'i] Thank you.

'Ezer Weizman Calls for Dialogue With 'Arafat

TA1011173389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] Minister 'Ezer Weizman is calling on the government to hold a dialogue with Yasir 'Arafat to attain a political solution and put an end to the intifadah. Addressing the Commerce and Industry Club in Tel Aviv, he warned against wasting time, thereby helping radical elements in the territories acquire further influence and losing Israel many friends in the world.

All those refusing to speak with 'Arafat because he is a terrorist, he said, are forgetting that President al-Sadat was not the president of the Zionist Federation before his visit to Israel and that he had caused Israel a high number of casualties—more than 'Arafat. President Mubarak, too, did not spend his entire life as a farmer, he added.

In Minister Weizman's opinion, Egypt should be allotted a central role in the settlement of the conflict, while the United States should be given the role of an assistant only.

Cabinet Briefed on U.S. Position on Delegation

TA1211115689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this morning told the Cabinet he would go to the United States on the basis of the principles set out in the Cabinet's decision on the Baker proposal. The Cabinet approved the prime minister's trip, as we hear in this report from Jack Katzenell:

[Begin recording] [Katzenell] The Cabinet was briefed on the Muslim Brotherhood's gains in the elections in Jordan and their implications for Israel. The briefing was from military intelligence, which also reported that Egypt is insisting that the Palestinians—meaning the PLO—be allowed to choose their own delegation to the talks with Israel, that the United States backs Egypt on the principle of territory in exchange for peace and that the Palestinians be allowed to raise other issues over and above the elections in the territories.

I asked Labor Party Minister Gad Ya'aqobi whether, in view of the reports that the United States does not accept all of Israel's assumptions on the Baker plan, perhaps Israel should withdraw its agreement. Ya'aqobi said there is nothing in the latest Egyptian and Palestinian demands.

[Ya'aqobi] So, I do not think that the Israeli Government has to reject those positions in this stage. I think that we have to continue the negotiations and continue the contacts with the United States in order to enable the meeting between the Palestinians and the State of Israel and the Government of Israel.

[Katzenell] The Likud's Roni Milo was also taking the news from Washington calmly. In his view, the important thing is that the prime minister's visit to the United States should go ahead. In any case, the report from the United States has not yet been confirmed, Milo said.

[Milo] Till now there is nothing about it, and I think that we can look forward to the meeting of the President of the United States and the prime minister of Israel discussing the major issues and even finding solutions

for a few problems that still exist about this very important peace process that the Israeli Government initiated.

[Katzenell] The Cabinet gave the prime minister's visit its formal agreement. Shamir said he is going to the United States on the basis of the principles in the Israeli reply to the Baker proposals. [end recording]

Arens Returns From 'Constructive' Japanese Tour

TA1311094889 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 13 Nov 89 p 2

[Text] ITIM—"A new page has been turned in Israeli-Japanese ties," said Foreign Minister Moshe Arens last night upon his return from a visit to Japan. He summed up his talks in Tokyo as having been "good and constructive."

Arens skirted the question of whether Israel should be worried about the prospects of the reunification of the two Germanies. "One cannot answer this casually," he said. "We are following developments there," he added.

Labor Victory Forecast in Histadrut Elections

TA0911180989 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 9 Nov 89 pp A1, 2

[Text] The following is the distribution of votes in the Histadrut elections, given in percentages of total voters, as shown in public opinion polls conducted by the Teleseqer Research Institute for MA'ARIV.

Labor Party	53-54percent
Likud	29percent
United Workers Party	7-8percent
Arab List	6-7percent
Citizens Rights Movement	4percent

The poll was conducted in telephone interviews in Teleseqer's interview center and incorporated a statewide example representing Histadrut members in the Jewish sector (648 interviewees) and in the Arab sector (390 interviewees). The poll in the Jewish sector was conducted in two stages between mid-October and 2 November, and in the Arab sector between 3 and 5 November.

The forecast is based on the assumption that between 60 and 65 percent of those who have the right to vote will do so, while the division of voters will be 86 percent for the Jewish sector and 14 percent for the Arab sector.

SLA, UN Report 27 Katyushas in Security Zone

TA0911190889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Many katyusha rockets launched by terrorists have landed in the security zone over the last 24 hours. Some of them also landed in the Galilee Panhandle, but there were no casualties. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht was informed by the SLA [South Lebanese Army] that katyusha rockets landed this afternoon near the Druze village of Hasbayya in the eastern sector. This morning a barrage of rockets was fired at the security zone and some of them landed in a plantation in the Galilee Panhandle. Katyusha rockets also were fired last night and landed in the vicinity of Kaukaba village.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1705 GMT on 9 November adds that "the SLA and the headquarters of the UN Interim Forces in Lebanon report that 27 katyusha rockets were fired at the security zone in southern Lebanon over the past 24 hours. Israeli army sources refused to corroborate this number."]

South African Delegation on 'Secret' Visit

TA1011082389 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Nov 89 p 11

[Report by David Makovsky]

[Text] A senior delegation of the rightist South African Conservative Party [CP], including three MPs [Members of Parliament], recently visited Israel in secret for nearly two weeks, meeting with Labour, Likud and right-wing MKs.

The delegation, which left last Saturday night, was headed by J.H. van der Merwe, the party's specialist on defence issues. Two other members of the delegation, Wilhelm Snyman and C.B. Schoeman, are also MPs. The fourth member was a CP activist.

The trip was reportedly organized by a South African Jew, Harold Merkin, who is said to be a member of the pro-apartheid CP. Sources say that the Israeli Embassy in Pretoria played no role in the visit, and that the meetings were set up by the South African Embassy in Tel Aviv.

The South African Embassy, however, said yesterday that it had "absolutely nothing" to do with the delegation's visit, or with its itinerary here. Bella Harrison, head of media relations at the embassy, said that its staff had found out about the group's tour only after it paid a courtesy call on the ambassador.

Egypt Delays Al-Saftawi Visit Over Baker Plan

TA0911211889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Egypt has informed As'ad al-Saftawi, one of the leading notables in the Gaza Strip, that he must postpone his trip to Cairo. Al-Saftawi had attempted to leave for Egypt yesterday evening, but he was forced to return after he discovered that the border pass in his possession was no longer valid.

Arab sources in Gaza reported that the visit was postponed as a result of the disagreements that cropped up between Egypt and the Palestinians over the Baker plan, because extreme elements inside the PLO refuse to accept the plan.

Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that al-Saftawi will probably leave for Cairo at the beginning of next

week. While in Cairo, he intends to discuss the composition of the Palestinian delegation that will participate in negotiations with Israel.

Final Parliamentary Election Results Announced

JN1011113089 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1025 GMT 10 Nov 89

["Proceedings" of news conference by Salim Masa'idah, deputy prime minister and interior minister, in Amman on 10 November, on official results of the 8 November parliamentary elections; recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I am pleased to welcome you to this final meeting in a series of sessions concerning the general elections—meetings at which questions were answered and light was shed on Jordan's intent to hold general parliamentary elections after his majesty the king announced the decision to disengage Jordan's legal and administrative ties with the West Bank and after subsequent amendments to the election law, which were introduced to fit the kingdom's new status. The procedure of electorate registration and distribution of election cards was determined. An election date was set. Procedures of nomination, candidate eligibility, and election campaigning methods also were defined.

I was pleased by the clarity and frankness which characterized these meetings. Questions were answered in a manner that reflected the government's will to hold these elections with all neutrality and honesty. This stems from the government's firm belief that one of its important duties is to enable all citizens to elect their representatives in the parliament, and from the full conviction that this is the best way to interpret our Constitution, which states that the people are the source of power, into a practical reality. These elections will enable everyone to work within the framework of the Constitution to establish the meaning of freedom and democracy in our dear country.

I repeat that I am pleased to welcome you to this meeting to announce the results of voting in the general elections as reached by the central committees of the election constituencies in accordance with Article 58 of the election law and the arrangement of election districts as stated in the aforementioned law.

The following are the names of the candidates who won in the parliamentary elections, broken up according to constituencies:

Amman Governorate, the first constituency:
'Ali Mustafa Muhammad al-Faqir, 13,418 votes
'Abd-al-'Aziz Jabr Shabanah, 11,188
Majid Muhammad Khalifah, 9,708

The second constituency:
'Abd-al-Mun'im Ra'fat Abu-Zant, 19,373
'Ali 'Id al-Hawamidah, 12,765
Ya'qub Jum'ah Qirrish, 5,082

The third constituency:
Layth Farhan Shubaylat, 14,740
Faris Sulayman al-Nabulsi, 7,801
Tahir Nash'at al-Masri, 6,482
Mansur Sayf-al-Din Murad, 8,747, for the Circassian seat
Fakhri Anis Qa'war, 6,211, for the Christian seat

The fourth constituency:
Nayif Minwir al-Hadid 6,458
Hamzah 'Abbas Mansur 4,260

The fifth constituency:
Humam 'Abd-al-Rahim Sa'id, 9,842
Muhammad 'Abd-al-Qadir Abu-Faris, 8,601
'Ata Fadil al-Shahwan, 4,845
Ahmad Salih 'Uwayd al-'Abbadi, 4,764
Dawud Qujaq, 8,012, for the Circassian seat

The sixth constituency:
Ahmad Qutaysh al-Azayidah, 6,534
'Abd-al-Hafiz Ahmad 'Ajawi, 5,953
Sa'd Butrus Haddadin, 3,088, for the Christian seat

Irbid Governorate, the constituency of the city of Irbid and the areas belonging to it:
Ahmad Mujalli al-Kawfahi, 32,651
'Abd-al-Rahim Muhammad 'Ukur, 22,920
Kamil Sari al-'Umari, 19,858
Yusuf Mahmud Ahmad al-Khasawinah, 19,064
Muhammad Ibrahim al-'Alawinah, 14,459
Dhuqan Salim al-Hindawi, 14,171
Husni Ahmad al-Shayyab, 12,246
'Abd-al-Ra'uf Salim al-Rawabidah, 11,178
Dhib Sa'd Marji, 11,694, for the Christian seat

Jarash District:
'Isa 'Abid al-Rimuni, 3,480
Husayn Muhammad Mujalli al-Rawashidah, 2,787

'Ajlun District:
Ahmad Mahmud Salim 'Innab, 5,208
'Abd-al-Salam Nur-al-Din Furayhat, 4,473
Jamal Riyad Haddad, 2,855, for the Christian seat

Al-Ramtha and Bani-Kananah Districts:
Muhammad 'Ali Muhammad Dardur, 11,734
Qasim Muhammad 'Ubaydat, 9,200
Salim Muhammad Salim al-Zu'bi, 5,483

Al-Kurah and Northern Jordan Valley:
'Abd-al-Majid 'Abdallah al-Shuraydah, 7,628
Nadir Muhammad Subh al-Zuhayrat, 6,163

Al-Balqa' Governorate:
'Abdallah 'Abd-al-Karim al-Nusur, 19,609
'Abd-al-Latif Sulayman 'Arabiyat, 15,451
Ibrahim Muhammad Mas'ud Khuraysat, 13,071
'Awni Muhammad 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Bashir, 10,611
Marwan 'Abd-al-Halim al-Nimr al-Humud, 9,571
Sultan Majid Sultan al-'Adwan, 8,721
Fawzi Shakir Tu'aymah, 13,993, for the first Christian seat

Samir Farhan Qa'war, 10,196, for the second Christian seat

Al-Karak Governorate:
Ahmad 'Ali Salim al-Kafawin, 13,184

Jamal Ahmad al-Sarayirah, 10,411
'Atif Muhammad Khalil al-Butush, 10,355
Mahmud 'Abd-al-Latif Huwaymil, 10,062
Mutayr Ahmad al-Bustanji, 9,977
Yusuf Salim al-Mubayyidin, 9,810
Muhammad Faris al-Tarawinah, 9,378
'Isa Sulayman Madanat, 10,274, for the first Christian seat
'Abdallah Ghanim Zurayqat, 9,478, for the second Christian seat

Ma'an Governorate:
Yusuf Huwaymil al-'Azm, 5,841
Sulayman 'Atallah 'Arar, 5,590
Ziyad Kamal al-Shuwaykh, 4,896
Hisham Fayiz Hamid al-Sharari, 4,538
'Abd-al-Karim 'Alawi al-Kabariti, 4,482

Al-Zarqa' Governorate:
Dhib Anis 'Abd-al-Hafiz Shihadah, 25,517
Muhammad Ahmad Mahmud al-Haj, 18,905
Salamah 'Atallah al-Ghuwayri, 7,036
Ziyad Muhammad Mahfuz Abu-Mahfuz, 6,513
'Abd-al-Baqi Jammu, 14,181, for the Circassian and Chechen seat
Bassam Salamah Haddadin, 14,698, for the Christian seat

Al-Mafraq Governorate:
'Abd-al-Karim Faysal al-Dughmi, 4,025
Muhammad Talab Musallam Abu-'Alim, 2,839
Nawwaf Faris al-Khawalidah, 2,533

Al-Tafilah Governorate:
'Abdallah 'Ali 'Awdah al-'Akayilah, 4,587
Fu'ad Mustafa al-Khalafat, 4,454
Ibrahim 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Ghababishah, 3,526

Bedouins of the north constituency:
Muhammad Bakhit Muhammad al-Mu'ar'ar, 3,845
Sa'd Hayil 'Awdah al-Surur, 3,569

Bedouins of the center constituency:
Jamal Hadithah al-Khurayshah, 3,582
Dr Muhammad 'Addub al-Zabn, 2,814

Bedouins of the south constituency:
Faysal Hamad Ibn-Jazi, 5,377
Nayif Muhammad 'Awdah Abu-Tayih, 4,304.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend congratulations to all members of the House of Representatives who won these elections. I pray that God will help them succeed in their new, noble tasks so that they can do their best to develop the progress of building and goodness in Jordan. I also pray to God to spare them from slip-ups and obstacles and to guide them so that they can contribute, together with all sincere people, to Jordan's development and prosperity.

Here, I would also like to thank all those who contributed in rendering success to all phases of the elections process—the sincere citizens; the policemen; and the staff of different ministries, departments, and institutions. May God's peace be upon you.

I would like first to make a remark regarding questions. His Majesty King Husayn will meet the brother journalists before noon today. He will answer all questions which you may have in mind. Therefore, I hope that the questions raised here to me will be confined to the elections process itself so that we can save the time and efforts of the brother journalists because they will, God willing, get satisfactory, clear, and, naturally, frank answers from his majesty the king.

[Al-'Abbadi] Fathi al-'Abbadi, from the magazine AL-IQTISADI AL-'ARABI. Your Excellency the Minister, can you give us figures regarding the total percentage of elections in all districts, the number of people eligible to vote, and the number of those who cast their votes; and what is your comment on this ratio? The second question is: What was the parties' shares in these elections and the number of seats each will fill? The third question is: How do your explain women's failure in these elections?

[Masa'idah] The number of those who cast their votes in the recent general elections is 555,397. The ratio of those who voted to those who are eligible to vote and carry election cards which allow them to vote is 63 percent. Regarding the second question....

[Al-'Abbadi, interrupting] Sir, [words indistinct]

[Masa'idah] To comment on the percentage, I think it is an acceptable percentage. However, this equation is actually preceded by other equations which will clarify this process. If we begin with the people who are eligible to vote, and who then registered their names, collected their cards, and participated in the elections process, the percentage will inevitably be less than that. I have the figures, but I do not know if these figures. [sentence as heard]

[Unidentified reporter] Sir, what about the parties' share [words indistinct]

[Masa'idah] Since I am the minister of interior, I say there are no parties in Jordan. But from an organizational basis I say that the only grouping which fought the election with a clear organizational trend is the Islamic Movement, which worked under the title of a group, or society. It won 20 out of 80 seats, or 25 percent.

Regarding the other organizations, naturally there are organizations, but they took part in the elections in a personal capacity. Some of them are at the level of organization, but there are no official organizations. The others represent movements. Their [the candidates] names are naturally available, and an analysis can be made from the information which the brother journalists have about them.

[Unidentified reporter] [words indistinct] al-Karak yesterday?

[Masa'idah] Sir, I was due to meet you yesterday—in the afternoon or evening. The phenomenon which started yesterday and delayed the announcement of this result was due to the delay in announcing the results in the al-Karak Governorate. There was some kind of an

attempt to cause confusion, or disrupt vote counting in the al-Karak Governorate. Some of those present in the sorting room tried to cause confusion for some reason, and they were asked out of the room. As a result, the votes were recounted in an exact manner with the participation of everyone in order to allow for greater accuracy. Therefore, the results were delayed until 2330 yesterday. And nothing which might leave a black mark on the elections occurred. On the contrary, this demonstrated a positive sign for more accuracy, concern, and clarity.

[Unidentified reporter] It was said that clashes took place yesterday in [words indistinct].

[Masa'idah] If something of this sort was published, then it is not true. I heard this only as a rumor. There have been many rumors accompanying the election process through all its stages, but reality always proved these rumors incorrect. There was a new rumor every day; but we kept silent, not responding or making any clarifications, leaving reality to prove the fallacy of these rumors. This was one of the rumors, and we hope it will be the last one about the general elections.

[Indistinct question by unidentified reporter]

[Masa'idah] This question should be directed to the citizens. I, perhaps, was one of the candidates who voted for a woman in one of the constituencies.

[Unidentified reporter posing largely indistinct question on re-sorting of votes]

[Masa'idah] No results were announced earlier. There was a protest. Attempts to create confusion began during the election process and before arriving at the final results. Some candidate supporters would leave the sorting room and say: Someone is in the lead, somebody is back in the list, and so forth. We were announcing the results continuously. Some people, therefore, thought that members of a certain bloc were all winners. Indeed, most members of this bloc did win, as it turned out later, but there were no final results. The committee never reached the stage of announcing the results. Some boxes were still closed and the open boxes were being recounted. There is some difference between the names of winners as just announced and the names rumored to have won earlier. But nothing was announced earlier, so we cannot say that there was a difference between two announcements.

Here is an additional clarification from the AL-DUSTUR newspaper. The paper reported that the reason for the delay in announcing the al-Karak results was the re-sorting of votes. But the al-Karak governor personally contacted us and said that there was no re-sorting. What happened was recounting. There was no disagreement concerning the sorting of votes. The number of votes won by every candidate in all boxes and in all election centers was recounted, and the final results appeared as I explained.

[Indistinct question by an unidentified reporter]

[Masa'idah] The organizational stages, and let me call them so—of course, the organization must be in line with the Constitution and the law—are as follows: After today's announcement of results, the people I will have named will now be members of the Kingdom's 11th House of Representatives. In the next few days, the parliament, in both its chambers—the Senate and the House of Representative—will be called into session. His majesty the king will deliver a speech from the throne. The first action of the house, as stated in its by-laws, is that it meets under the chairmanship of its oldest member to elect the House's permanent bureau, which comprises the speaker, two deputies, and two assistants. The House of Representatives then begins exercising its duties in accordance with the Constitution and the law.

[Unidentified reporter, in English] We would like to know how many voters were really eligible. I mean, how many people had the right to vote? You gave the figures of how many people took out their cards, or how many people registered, but we would like to have the figure on how many people actually had the right to vote, because otherwise we cannot judge the participation, you see?

[Masa'idah] The number of people eligible to vote—that is if they practiced their right in full from the beginning—is 1,409,520 on the day that voters were registered. The number of those registered—that is, those who exercised their right in the first phase of the elections process—is 1,020,457. Some of those did not exercise their right in the following phase to obtain the voting card which enables them to cast their votes on election day. The number of those who collected their voting cards is 877,475. As I said in my statement, the number of those who cast their votes is 555,397. These figures can be used for studies. But, these figures actually speak for themselves.

[Unidentified reporter] Do these figures include the Armed Forces? Naturally, the Armed Forces cannot vote, but...

[Masa'idah, interrupting] The first figure—1,409,520—is the number of those who have the right to vote as determined by the legal age—over the age of 19. This figure includes the Armed Forces. The other figures do not include them.

[Unidentified reporter] [words indistinct] If we exclude the Armed Forces, what is the actual figure of those who have the right to vote?

[Masa'idah] I do not have the exact answer to this question.

[Reporter, interrupting] Approximately?

[Masa'idah] We have the number of people who could have registered, and the number of those who actually registered. The difference between these two figures represent those who did not wish to register, or who are in the Armed Forces. I do not have the exact figure.

[Unidentified reporter] Your Excellency, some people say that the voting card was one of the reasons behind people's abstention from elections. Is this true?

[Masa'idah] This reservation or talk regarding the voting card was relevant in accordance with the law before it was amended. However, as a result of discussions with all sides dealing with the elections, it was decided to exclude the issue of the photograph to make it easier to obtain the card. Therefore, the photograph was excluded after the law was amended, and in accordance with instructions from the interior minister. However, some people did not exercise this right to obtain a card, although we facilitated the opportunity to obtain the card as much as we could. The only thing that we did not do is that we did not hand-deliver the card to its owner. Regrettably, some people did not take the cards. We collected them, and they are with us at the Ministry.

[Indistinct question]

[Masa'idah] I believe that this was not an obstacle, because the way was paved for the people. Despite this, some people who had cards did not come to vote. I thank all the brothers who came to this conference. I hope that I have answered some of their questions. Thanks again. May God's peace and blessings be upon you.

Parliament Slated To Meet '21 or 25 November'

JN1211115289 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 12 Nov 89 p 1

[Text] Amman—AL-DUSTUR has learned that Parliament will be summoned to meet in an ordinary session either on 21 or 25 November. Parliament will hear a speech from the throne to be read by His Majesty King Husayn. The ad hoc ministerial committee has already drafted the speech from the throne.

It is rumored in parliamentary circles that a number of deputies will nominate themselves for the speakership of the House of Representatives. These include Dhuqan al-Hindawi, Sulayman 'Arar, Dr 'Abd-al-Latif 'Arabiyat, Husayn Mujalli, Layth Shubaylat, and 'Abdallah al-Nusur.

King Husayn Holds Post-Election News Conference

JN1011145889 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 10 Nov 89

[News conference held by King Husayn at the Royal Cultural Center in Amman on 10 November—recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified reporter] Your Majesty, the parliamentary elections produced many currents. In your opinion, will these currents continue in the present circumstances? What effect will they have on the Arab and international agreements that previous and existing governments had concluded?

[Husayn] To answer your question, the agreements that the state concludes at the Arab or international levels are binding on this state. We believe that there is no room for anyone to question this issue. If you are referring to the numerous slogans that many in this country have raised, whether those who will be responsible when the House of Representatives convenes or those many candidates who were not as lucky, I believe these slogans were raised because of a lack of knowledge of the facts and complications involved in the matter. Perhaps some people thought that by publicizing these slogans they would win enough support to get elected to parliament—and this did not happen in most cases—or perhaps they did it for other reasons. However, this country has deep roots. It has offered, built, and achieved enough to make every thinking, aware Jordanian proud. With the results of the general parliamentary election, we have turned over a new leaf. But some of these slogans may have lingered in the minds of those who have been observing this process, be they Arab brothers or people from other parts of the world.

The operation in general had its positive as well as negative aspects. However, I have always relied on the individual citizen's awareness and understanding of the issue. This citizen exercised his full rights in the election process. Now we have before us a new phase, and I am very optimistic, being aware of the facts and shouldering my responsibilities. The legislative authority, in conjunction with the executive authority, will contribute to the continuation of the construction process. This process will enable Jordan to continue performing its role as best as it can in facing all the challenges and dangers, given its position, destiny, heritage, and fidelity to the principles and aims that it inherited from our forefathers, its sincerity to its nation, to the message, to the banner, its eagerness to defend the threatened Arab order, and its concern over playing a full role in supporting its brothers who are closest to it—namely, the Arab people of Palestine—in obtaining their rights on their national soil.

[Ghunaym] Muhammad Ghunaym, the Voice of America. Your Majesty, you promised free elections, and you fulfilled your promise. Will this freedom extend to the new parliament; will the government support and be in harmony with the House of Representatives which, judging by its formation, will contain a large opposition?

[Husayn] Sir, I do not know what you mean by opposition. Is it something absolute? I personally prefer to call it a joint shouldering of responsibility. In this connection, I believe that the responsibility the Jordanian people entrusted to those they elected to represent them in the next stage will require all of them to shoulder this responsibility, understand its significance, and do their utmost. Therefore, it is not possible to describe the situation as opposition or nonopposition at this stage.

Some might approve, oppose, or rectify a certain policy. The process is one involving the participation of all in charting the outlines of the future. I would like here to refer to one aspect. Many people asked the following questions: Why hold elections now? Were elections held because of certain circumstances? Were they dictated by pressure? My answer is too simple. I wanted them to be

at this stage in which Jordan is facing harsh circumstances and difficult challenges. I sought to hold these elections under these very circumstances.

Of course, past circumstances have not allowed us to hold general elections in this manner. We decided to sever ties with the West Bank. When that decision was made, we pledged to return trust to all citizens so that they could elect their deputies to the House of Representatives to enable it to work with the executive power in charting a future picture. If I had doubts about the awareness of people, a question about my concept of the future might be raised. We are of these people and for these people. We have shouldered grave responsibilities and carried heavy burdens over this long period. The government is of the people and for the people, just as the House is of the people and for the people. Therefore, the process is one designed to put the Jordanian house in order. Moreover, I, in my capacity as the man in charge of this country, along with the government, have chosen to see the people exercise their right to elect their representatives to the House at this very point in time. We sought to obtain a real picture of the situation. We have chosen to see this experience materialize under the most difficult circumstances. This is a reflection of how much faith we have in our citizen and in his awareness. The assessment of what will happen in the future will be left to the people, to all of their factions and strata. We beseech God to grant us full success in all that would serve the interests of the people, the country, and the nation.

[Al-Hiyari] I am Samir al-Hiyari, correspondent for both the Jordanian newspaper AL-RA'Y and the Saudi newspaper 'UQAZ. Sir, what is your opinion of the choice made by the people? Thank you.

[Husayn] My opinion of the choice made by the people is that the people have the final say concerning their choices. God willing, their choice will bring blessings and benefits. I am fully satisfied with all results of these elections. Insurmountable circumstances have prevented us for a long time from allowing the people to exercise their right to elect their representatives to their House of Representatives. Praise be to God, this has happened. As I said earlier, I sought to see this process take place at this point in time so that it would reveal all facts about the people's tendencies, aspirations, and ambitions. The people have made their choice. I pray to Almighty God that they have chosen what will bring benefits. I am personally optimistic that we are on the threshold of a new phase that will benefit this march which is of this nation and for this nation. This march is designed to serve the future—the future of Arab generations.

[Nabil] I am Lima Nabil, a correspondent for various newspapers. Political organizations were allowed to explicitly name their affiliations during the elections. Does this mean that they will continue to be authorized to make public their affiliations or to operate as political organizations during the coming phase?

[Husayn] I believe that this is a natural thing. No one has so far asked me about the National Charter. I promised that there would be elections. God be praised, we have completed this phase. Now, we are launching a new phase. As for the charter, I have strong hopes that it will be drawn up and referred to the people to help consummate the reorganization process and to rally all resources and capabilities so that we can continue to serve this country and make it a living, effective, positive, and constructive element within the greater Arab homeland.

[Mango] I am Rabab Mango, a correspondent for the Jordanian newspaper AL-RA'Y and the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS. In light of the current parliamentary election results, we have witnessed a retreat in the standing of the various political currents unleashed by this process. In light of the National Charter that will be drawn up, will there be room for the emergence of Jordanian political parties that reflect the aspirations of the people as regards the peculiarity of Jordan's situation?

[Husayn] I believe that this is the aim. Naturally, I always was ambitious and hoped that this country, in view of its location, unique experience, and the difficulties it confronted would be a source of light in its life and within its greater nationhood and would adhere to the principles and values we inherited from our fathers and forefathers.

Concerning the charter, we hope it will be the greater framework of the construction march in this country. At the same time, we hope it will allow its sons and daughters to make contributions in line with the size of the responsibilities we are all bearing in an organized manner in the reconstruction of the present and the future.

We would also grant opportunities for all opinions and directions in the coming stage to continue in line with the reality of the general elections. This process is one of reorganizing and reconstructing. During my life in this country and as one of its sons, the fact I am very proud of is that I have always tried to find out what people feel and think, to present the people with the facts. Since we have been steadfast despite the fact that the challenges are bigger than we are from the point of view of population and area, I am very pleased with all this—that we were marched in unison and that awareness, loyalty, and honesty were the factors leading to its success. No one will stay forever except for the people who will remain. And before discussing these issues, we praise God Almighty.

Our responsibilities are to reflect what lies in the hearts of the people on the way to good will and reconstruction. This is one of the secrets of our continuation and success under God's protection. This is a stage of reordering in all senses of the word. We get inspiration from the past to help us reorganize our issues. In view of all this, because of our experience, we try to avoid, as a result of this experience, anything that is harmful and not beneficial. We work for reconstruction on the soundest bases with

the participation of everyone through frankness, openness, and the presentation of the facts to all the people so that every individual will be aware of his role and perform his duty conscientiously to lead to the great achievements we will realize with God's help.

['Abd-al-Latif] I am Salah 'Abd-al-Latif from the Middle East News Agency, MENA. Your Majesty, I would like first to extend my greetings and congratulations. Greetings on this historic democratic event in Jordan, and congratulations to your majesty on your blessed birthday of which we are all proud in the Arab world. It is not strange that these two events coincided with each other. This is because the people and the leader constitute one entity. My question is in two parts. The first is about Jordan's new role in the Arab arena in light of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC]. The second is: When will the new House begin its sessions, and when will the new government, which we expect soon, God willing, be announced? Thank you.

[Husayn] Thank you, my brothers. Regarding the inauguration of the new House, it will take place during the last 10 days of this month. We have not reached a final agreement on the date, but it will be inaugurated as soon as possible to begin the new phase.

Regarding the ACC, I believe that we have made great strides in laying down the foundations and bases for development, big development, so as to play its role in the Arab homeland in the interest of this nation along with the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] and the other experiment in the Arab Maghreb. The ACC includes approximately a population of 83 million of this nation. It is not an agreement among leaders. It is an agreement among them regarding their convictions and approaches in the interest of this nation. In fact, it is the beginning of a process of integration in all walks of life and for the good of the Arab people, the ACC member states, and the Arab nation in the greater Arab homeland. It is for stability, development, strength, and efficiency. Of course, several people may expect too much. However, we have begun work from bottom to top. We will continue this process.

During the first year, fraternal Iraq made the greatest contribution to the establishment of the ACC. Jordan will be honored to host the coming ACC summit in February of the new year, God willing. We will continue to contribute and to cooperate until we make further achievements in the second year. I believe that the citizens in the ACC member states will begin to pick the fruit of what has so far been achieved. The citizen will feel that what has been achieved was great, continuous, and a dynamic process that will develop thanks to the contribution of all sides. This process will be in the interest of all sides, God willing. I thank you for your greetings on my birthday. I will be 54 in a few days.

[Unidentified reporter] Your Majesty, the percentage of voters to those who obtained voting cards was 61 percent, and the percentage of voters out of those who have the right to vote was 41 percent. How does your majesty interpret these percentages, and do these elections reflect the trends of the majority of the people?

[Husayn] Of course, regarding the elections process, these results reflect the opinions and views of those who participated in it. However, those who did not participate in it have only themselves to blame, as they say. In fact, compared to what takes place in the rest of the world, the percentage is acceptable and reasonable, and I am satisfied with it.

[Ni'mat] Salamah Ni'mat from the BBC. A promiment theme of the election campaign was a call to scrap martial law in the country. Where do you stand on this issue, assuming that deputies will call for its abrogation?

[Husayn] Thank you. If they should make such a call and were convinced of the need for its abrogation in coordination with the government and have it replaced by some other arrangement, we will address the issue when it arises. I would like to say that martial law was a situation resulting from the 1967 war. Martial law was not invoked for political purposes, except on rare occasions. I do not even remember it ever being so invoked. It has been used under specific circumstances to take measures to forestall things, such as the depopulation of the occupied territories. Martial law was also invoked when the government had to resist, punish, or try persons suspected of having harmed public interests in various areas. God willing, all these facts will be clear to all concerned in future. The sprouting of dialogue and the determination to build and make progress, will, God willing, produce the desired ends that serve the interests of the homeland and the citizen.

[Fawzi al-Bandari, AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI] Your majesty has touched on the subject of the National Charter. Will it be put to a national referendum or debated by the parliament?

[Husayn] I favor a referendum on the issue. I think this is the right approach. God willing, when the National Charter is ready after its principles have been laid down by various cross sections of the people, I think, personally, that it has to be put to a referendum so the people will have their say.

['Abd al-Wahhab al-Zughaylat, AL-RA'Y] Does your majesty believe that the new House will usher in a new era on the local, Arab, and international levels, or that the deputies will be guided by a reality divorced from their slogans?

[Husayn] We in this country are either Muslims or Christians. Personally, I am an Arab and before that a Hashemite Muslim. This is my identity and a source of pride for me. The elections were held in an extremely free climate. The election results may have produced some surprises for some people. I attribute this to the long interval between the most recent polls and the previous elections held in Jordan. The elections have mirrored contemporary Jordan and the ambitions of the general public. Thanks be to God that polling was

characterized by discipline and conducted in an atmosphere of brotherhood. In fact, it was something of a festival for Jordanians. The elections were held in absolute freedom.

I think a discussion of your question is a bit premature, since we are at the start of a new phase of our life. Naturally, when a person or group of people assumes responsibility, they will have access to a good many facts which they probably had not known before. The awareness, dedication, and integrity that have earned them election to the house will hopefully help them fulfill their role. Thanks be to God, the burden that I shouldered for quite some time is now being shared by all the sons of the homeland.

I am very optimistic, confident, and hopeful. As for our enemies, their hallucinations, and their attempts—we have grown accustomed to them over the long period. I do not believe that they have any effect or credibility.

['Awad] I am Samira 'Awad, a correspondent for the Jordanian newspaper SAWT AL-SHA'B. Your Majesty, has the harassment targeting some female candidates contributed to the failure of the people to elect any of them to parliament? And, are you satisfied with this outcome? Thank you.

[Husayn] I have strong hopes that the Jordanian woman will continue to exercise her right, just as she did in these elections. I also hope that she will work and shoulder her responsibilities more strongly during the coming phases. This is the first time in which the Jordanian woman participated in the election process. I hope that she will have the chance and good fortune in the future to offer her great services to bolster the march, which is a principal factor and issue.

[Tahbub] I am 'Abd-al-Halim Tahbub, a correspondent for the magazine AL-RA'ID AL-'ARABI. Your Majesty, there are rapid developments currently taking place in West and East Europe. Observers are predicting that these developments might eventually lead to the emergence of a third superpower—that is, a federal Europe. Is there an Arab strategy for coping with such a situation, especially as far as the economic domain is concerned?

[Husayn] We have recently launched the ACC. This is in itself a manifestation of our belief that this nation is one. Moreover, the steps taken within the framework of this body are indicative of the possible and sensible methods to achieve our objectives under such circumstances. Besides, our brothers in the Arab homeland also advocate this concept.

There are people who preceded us in launching such an experience. I am here referring to the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council]. Some other people launched their experience along with us. I am here referring to the Arab Maghreb Union. I believe that this is the sound orientation for realizing the aspirations, objectives, and purposes pertaining to the materialization of integration and cooperation and to the building of Arab strength within the greater Arab homeland. God willing, there will be cooperation between these groupings and blocs to help benefit people and serve the interests of future generations.

[Unidentified reporter] I, along with my colleagues at the JORDAN NEWS AGENCY, stayed up late during the last 3 days of elections. While rummaging in the archives, we found that our statistics up to the year 1987 show that the Jordanian people have television sets worth Jordanian dinars [JD] 2 billion; electrical appliances worth JD2 billion; vehicles worth JD6 billion; roads and hospitals worth JD26 billion; baked bricks, embellishments, and decor worth JD800 million. We hope that Abu-Shakir will include all this in the speech from the throne which he will prepare.

[Husayn] Okay. We will check these archives, review them, and scrutinize them. Then, we will of course include this data in the speech from the throne. May God help me read the speech from the throne, brother, if each of you proposes that I include all that he has. [laughter] Anything to satisfy you. Yes, please.

[Khayrallah] I am Khayrallah Khayrallah, a correspondent for the newspaper AL-HAYAT. We would like to ask his majesty the king a question on Lebanon if he does not mind. The question is the following: You have supported the election of Deputy Rene Mu'awwad as a president for the Republic of Lebanon...

[Husayn, interrupting] We in the Arab homeland supported and approved the formation of the tripartite committee which played its role to settle the Lebanese issue. We supported the measures and steps taken by this committee. As the results of the committee's efforts reflect the aspirations of the Lebanese in general, we have taken the step of supporting the agreement and the election of the new president. We hope that this will be a good start ushering in an end to the suffering which we have been experiencing with too much pain for many past years. God willing, the future will bring benefits.

[Unidentified reporter] Your Majesty, during the election campaign, or rather the election propaganda, there was free discussion of election programs. However, certain leaflets appeared from time to time. Will there be a certain policy with regard to the media and the press in connection with the new parliament, going along with this parliament, along this open policy line?

[Husayn] I believe the intention already is to review the press and publications law and to have new suitable and proper conditions, God willing. I believe we have reached a phase of maturity in this country which will qualify and enable us to do many things, which I would rather not elaborate on now. But this is my intention, and I earnestly hope that the next phase will witness much that would strengthen the march, with God's help, with a partnership that is built on conviction, taking into account all the facts for all the citizens.

I believe I have covered most of the questions and we have started repeating ourselves. Therefore, I thank you very much and I apologize for being late yesterday. We also spent the night with you because of the al-Karak results. But God be praised, all the results have appeared, making this meeting possible. [applause]

King Objects to Muslim Brotherhood's Slogan

JN1011171889 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] Following the announcement of the results of the Jordanian parliamentary elections, King Husayn held a new conference this morning in which he implicitly criticized the Muslim Brotherhood group, which won 20 out of the 80 parliamentary seats. King Husayn asserted that the slogan calling for a return to Islam is not sound, and that progress toward Islam would be sounder.

The Jordanian king said that the group had been registered with the Jordanian authorities as an association but it now appears as a party. The group's slogan in the election campaign was: Islam is the Solution.

It should be noted that the parliamentary opposition forces in which the Islamists form a majority now occupy more than one third of the new Jordanian parliament seats.

Islamic Trend Leader Reveals Future Intentions

JN1211133089 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Dispatch from Randah Habib in Amman]

[Text] The Islamic trend and Muslim Brotherhood deputies who now occupy seats in the Jordanian Parliament do not seek to change the regime but to help it rectify educational, moral, and economic matters in the country through dialogue and persuasion. This was conveyed to our radio by Dr 'Ali al-Hawamidah, one of the leaders of the Islamic trend who won a seat in the Amman Governorate.

Al-Hawamidah noted that the Islamic trend does not believe in violence or in any sort of disturbances or military coups, adding that the trend's supporters will firmly prevent the kind of sectarian or regional sedition that has occurred in Lebanon.

On the subject of women in Jordanian society, Al-Hawamidah denied that the Islamic deputies intended to ask for imposing the veil, explaining that they only want women to dress decently at home, outside the home, and at work and not to be a source of temptation and seduction.

Al-Hawamidah also said that the Muslim deputies support Islamic teachings stressing the right of women to work and to vote, because they form half of society. Al-Hawamidah spoke about the deterioration in public morality over the past 3 decades in a process which, he believes, was designed by various quarters to deviate toward secularism.

Meanwhile, hundreds of veiled women in the low income areas that supported the Islamic bloc candidates, have expressed their pleasure with the results, crying the slogan "Islam is the Solution."

Islamic Movement's 'Remarkable Victory' Studied

JN1011092089 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 10 Nov 89 p 14

["An Arab Opinion" column by Mahmud al-Rimawi: "People's Confidence and the Interests of the Homeland"]

[Text] Expectations of a remarkable victory for the Islamic Movement in the parliamentary elections have come true. The victory was expected in light of the legal presence of this movement, known as the Muslim Brotherhood group, because of the deep religious sentiments that exist within Jordanian society—sentiments that have run even deeper in the past decade—and because of the religious nature of the founding and progression of the Jordanian state.

If this group—which deserves warm congratulations on the big victory it competently scored—has always been known for its moderate inclinations and restraint from going too far in politicizing religion, its election campaigns went in a different direction—something known to anyone who followed the seminars and activities arranged during the campaign.

Now that a dignified number of the group's representatives have made it to the parliament through the legitimate democratic game, it is hoped that they will play their national and legislative role in the parliament in cooperation with the other representatives of the people. The goal must be to upgrade parliamentary activity and embody people's genuine ambitions in a high spirit of responsibility and objectivity. The guidelines for this activity should be the country's main interests and special circumstances, and the parliamentarians' performance should strengthen cohesion among the sons of the one people and consolidate national unity—the primary guarantor of stability, strength, and prosperity.

The representatives of the Islamic Movement have succeeded in gaining the cherished confidence of the people, as did a number of their respectable colleagues. They must now succeed in winning the second phase of the experience—namely, movement from the easy process of making up slogans to the hard, persistent, and rapid action to counter challenges faced by this Arab Muslim country and overcome the obstacles that lie in its path. This requires the concerted efforts of sincere and competent people of all schools of thought as long as they aim at pleasing God Almighty, realizing the higher national interests of the country and people, and achieving the Arab and Muslim nation's goals of liberation, unity, and rejection of all forms of domination.

The people's representatives will be relied on to render the parliamentary experience a success through fruitful collective action in the parliament, and through serious and honest cooperation between the legislative and executive authorities. This would herald a calm and positive transfer to a new stage in our public life—a stage characterized by real participation, genuine democratic values, and freedom of all forces without exception with

a view to solving pending problems, achieving desired ambitions, and bolstering the state of justice, the institutions, and the rule of law in light of the existing legitimacy and its continuation.

These are precious hopes, but their achievement by people with a high spirit of righteousness and reform will not be too dear.

Fruit, Vegetable Exports Register Increase

JN0811095589 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 8 Nov 89 P3

[Text] (PETRA) Jordan's exports of fresh fruit and vegetables amounted to 47,300 tonnes with a total value of JD 10.5 million, compared with 18,400 tonnes during October last year, thus achieving an increase of 64 per cent over last year's figures. Most of the exports were sent to the Arab Gulf countries. However, the exports to Saudi Arabia accounted to 22,400 tonnes of the total exports, followed by Kuwait which imported 12,600 tonnes, and the United Arab Emirates with 7,280 tonnes. Exports to Bahrain accounted for 5.2 per cent of the total exports and Qatar 2.1 per cent. Exports to Lebanon amounted to 370 tonnes and exports to Europe amounted to 150 tonnes. Last month's exports were 5.8 per cent higher than those of September.

Mu'awwad Meets With Al-Huss at Government House

NC1311083689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 13 Nov 89

[Text] President Rene Mu'awwad is currently meeting in the Government House with Dr Salim al-Huss, who will be entrusted with forming the new government. This has been stated by 'Umar Massaki who went this morning to Dr al-Huss' home to accompany him to the Government House and to inform him of the appointment.

Appoints Al-Huss To Form Government

NC1311091289 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 13 Nov 89

[Excerpt] A short time ago, President Rene Mu'awwad charged Former Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss with the formation of a national accord government. [passage omitted]

'Awn 'Source' Views Appointment

NC1311131089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 13 Nov 89

[Text] In a first reaction to the appointment of Dr Salim al-Huss, a source close to Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn has said that the appointment of Dr al-Huss as prime minister does not change anything, for the situation is illegal and unconstitutional.

Presidential Adviser's Statement

NC1311102489 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 13 Nov 89

[Text] President Rene Mu'awwad has charged Dr Salim al-Huss with the formation of a new government. The president summoned Al-Huss to the Government House at 1000 for a meeting.

'Umar Mistayki, an adviser to President Mu'awwad who accompanied Al-Huss to the Government House, read out the following statement of designation:

According to the Constitution, in commitment to the national accord document, after consultations with the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, and on the basis of the parliamentary consultations the president has held and about which he later officially briefed the speaker, his excellency the president of the Republic summoned former Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss at 1000 today and charged him with the formation of a new government.

Fadlallah Cites Pentagon, CIA Role in Election

LD1111101889 Tehran IRNA in English 0934 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] Beirut, Nov 11, IRNA—The prominent Lebanese Alim Sa'id Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah here Friday [10 November] condemned the French Government move in banning female Muslim students from observing Islamic code of dress at French schools stressing that the oppressors through application of such methods aimed at wiping out all traces of freedom.

Addressing worshipers at Friday congregational prayers in southern Beirut, Fadlallah expressed concern over the collaboration of the Pentagon and the CIA in election of Rene Mu'awwad as the new president of Lebanon.

He described the al-Ta'if pact as a new plan to flare up fresh fighting between the feuding clans in Lebanon.

The al-Ta'if pact had no goal but distracting the public opinion from main issues of Lebanon and making the people apprehensive about the military encounters with the aim to maintain the present state of uncertainty and cause fresh tensions in the future, he added.

Fadlallah stressed that cause of Lebanese war still remained unattended and the present developments were nothing but measures to safeguard interests of world powers.

He stressed that it was the Palestinian intifadah that unveiled the disgraceful nature of world-devourers which support Zionism.

National Front Discusses Presidential Election

NC0911140389 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] The al-Ta'if agreement, the subsequent developments, the election of a president, and the consultations the president has started were discussed today at a meeting held by the National Front in the house of Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri. In addition to Birri, the meeting was attended by Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt, Dawud Baz, 'Abdallah al-Amin, Zahir al- Khatib, Marwan Hamadah, 'Ali 'Id, Samir Sabbagh, Munir al-Sayyad, Akram Shuhayyib, Haytham Jum'ah, Suhayl Hamadah, Ilyas 'Atallah, Nasri Khuri, Joseph al-Sab'ali, Fayyad Haydar, 'Ali Hamad, and Sa'd-al-Din Hamid.

After the meeting, 'Abdallah al-Amin made the following statement: the National Front met this morning and discussed the new developments in light of the contacts and consultations held last week after the election of President Rene Mu'awwad. The Front discussed the political situation in the coming stage.

Despite its known stand on the al-Ta'if agreement—namely that it does not represent the ambitions of Lebanese nationalists— the National Front has decided to deal positively with the current developments. This will pave the way for steps that would lead to the restoration of the homeland's unity and end the mutiny against the national legitimate authority by the general of al-Yarzah.

Asked if this means the Front will take part in the new government, Al-Amin said: This issue will be decided in light of the contacts and consultations the Front leaders will hold with the political forces and the president-elect. Asked whether the 'Awn obstacle will last long, he replied that the obstacle as represented by 'Awn is

different from what it was in the past. It is now a state of armed rebellion and mutiny and an overt attempt to restore the logic of partition. This mutiny and rebellion must be confronted and ended, he said, otherwise Lebanon might disappear.

Answering a question on the ways to deal with the 'Awn obstacle, Al-Amin said: General 'Awn has become a rebel officer who has usurped the legitimate authority in a certain area of Lebanon. The legitimate Lebanese authority must act against this rebellion to end it and restore Lebanon's unity. Otherwise the crisis will continue, and this conflicts completely with the election of the president and with the positions of the nationalist movement and the Arab and international communities. Asked if there are contacts with the Lebanese Forces, he said: There are no contacts, nor have there been any in the past.

Junblatt Meets Mu'awwad, Comments on Situation

NC0911185289 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Excerpts] President Rene Mu'awwad resumed his consultations today to form the national accord government. He met with a number of deputies, parliamentary blocs, and key political figures. He received the National Front delegation, which included Walid Junblatt, Nabih Birri, Karim Muruwwah, Elie Hubayqah, 'Abdallah al-Amin, Samir Sabbagh, and Deputy Zahir al-Khatib. [passage omitted]

Walid Junblatt said that the situation is very critical and requires quick action. As a nationalist team, we are ready to help implement the al-Ta'if settlement, which can later be improved, Junblatt said. He added: We insist on the reservations we had made earlier.

Junblatt said: We cannot accept this paper. However, he added, we will deal with it later in a positive and democratic way. On his participation in the government, Mr Junblatt said: Everything in good time. He asserted that he has no candidate for the prime minister position at present, because he does not want to fall into the same trap that snared Prime Minister Salim al-Huss' government and which led to chaos. He added that the nationalist powers seek to formulate a unified nationalist team that works to help the president save the country from partition.

On how to eliminate the obstacle represented by 'Awn, Junblatt said: We will see. If there is a sincere and homogenous working team and a conflict-free government, I believe this task will be easy. However, he added, if the government includes conflicting elements who have their reactionary, progressive, Arab, and non-Arab orientations, we will stand still.

General 'Awn, Ja'ja' Meet, Make Statements

NC1011072189 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] Extensive consultations were held in B'abda Palace yesterday. The most prominent was the meeting between Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn and Lebanese Forces Commander Dr Samir Ja'ja', who was accompanied by attorney George 'Adwan. Ja'ja' described the situation in the eastern area as very good. He pointed out that this is the only issue which requires no discussion.

Discussing his meeting with the Lebanese forces commander, Gen 'Awn said: We have agreed on many things. The Lebanese forces are interested in our common issue. He pointed out that it is up to Dr Ja'ja' to announce what his loyalties are. Gen 'Awn pledged to continue to oppose President Mu'awwad but he said that he did not expect the fighting to renew.

In an interview with REUTER and Visnews, 'Awn added: Our war has ended and we have triumphed. He pointed out that his enemies have failed politically and militarily saying: I do not believe that they will resort again to what they did several times in the past but at which they did not succeed.

Asked if the present situation can continue for long, 'Awn answered: I do not care for the time factor. We are on the way to a radical solution. Syria wanted to annex us before but this is impossible now. We can be patient in order to achieve a final and durable solution.

Asked what his government will do if the Bank of Lebanon decides not to provide him with money, 'Awn answered: We have a plan to overcome such a situation.

Kuwaiti Press on 'Awns Plans, Israeli Support

JN0811153089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] In Kuwait, highly placed Lebanese political sources gave information to the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS, published in its issue today, that General 'Awn seems to be fully determined to declare the partition of Lebanon and to tighten his control over the eastern area currently under his influence. The sources said that the partition will be declared in a matter of days, confirming that for some days 'Awn has been discussing, with political leaders in the eastern area and loyalist senior Lebanese officers, a series of military, security, financial, administrative, and organizational steps and measures as a prelude to declaring the partition.

AL-QABAS also learned from well-informed Western diplomatic sources in Paris that consultations are under way among France, the United States, the Vatican, and the Soviet Union to prevent the partition of Lebanon in anticipation of 'Awn's measures.

Meanwhile, Lebanese sources close to new President Rene Mu'awwad told AL-QABAS that Mu'awwad is not ready to make any political concessions to General 'Awn, indicating that President Mu'awwad is not willing to overcome the 'Awn obstacle militarily at this point and that he prefers to give mediation and political efforts a chance.

However, sources in the Lebanese Forces in the eastern sector of Beirut have revealed that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir sent a verbal message, described as important, to General 'Awn, conveying his readiness to give 'Awn support—including full military assistance to his forces—to oppose the recent developments in Lebanon following the election of the new Lebanese president.

The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM today quoted these sources as saying: An assistant to the director of Israeli Mosad conveyed Shamir's message to General 'Awn and returned to occupied Palestine on the day before yesterday in the morning.

Mu'awwad Said To Implement Peace Plan

NC1211182489 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] Observers say that the shape of the new government, which will see the light soon, is not yet clear because of the complexity of the eastern area's representation. Some of the influential forces in this area have not yet decided on participation in the new government. This has created obstacles that are not insignificant and must be firmly dealt with.

On the other hand, informed sources believe that President Mu'awwad is determined to go ahead with the peace plan. The sources say that he favors a solution to all problems through dialogue, on the basis that the current obstacles are exceptional and require exceptional measures to contain and overcome them, so that a practical solution may be achieved which will safeguard the unity of the country under the canopy of the legitimacy of the new era. President Mu'awwad announced this himself yesterday, when he emphasized his determination to continue the march on the basis of the Lebanese Constitution, his faith in national unity, and the desire of all Lebanese to achieve a solution which will guarantee a secure and stable life for all under the aegis of the state and within the framework of national sovereignty.

'Foreign Ministry' Astonished by Soviet Stand

NC1011105989 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] A Foreign Ministry source [in East Beirut] commented on Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov's statement accusing some forces in Lebanon of standing in the way of a settlement of the Lebanese crisis. The source said:

1. The Lebanese are not against a settlement and an internal accord backed by Arab and international quarters. They are against the al-Ta'if agreement, which resulted in the consolidation of the Syrian occupation's control of Lebanese territory and decision.

2. Those who oppose the al-Ta'if agreement, and thus the continuation of the Syrian occupation of Lebanese territory, are the majority of Lebanese, Muslims, and Christians. Moscow knows this fact more than others.

3. We wish Soviet religious jealousy of our spiritual leaders had displayed some denunciation when Soviet-made heavy artillery shells fell on Bkirki and all churches, monasteries, and symbols of Lebanese legitimacy. Instead, the Soviet Union exploited an incident [attack on Maronite Patriarch in Bkirki] to build a political stand against the overwhelming majority of Lebanese.

The source added: While denouncing any attack on our spiritual leaders, we are astonished that the Soviet Foreign Ministry considers this isolated incident an abominable crime surpassing crimes involving the assassination of the Mufti of the Republic Shaykh Hasan Khalid Shaykh Subhi al-Salih, and other religious figures at the hands of those whom Moscow knows very well.

AL-SHIRA' on Contacts to Release Hostages

NC1111101489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] AL-SHIRA' magazine has revealed that secret contacts are under way to release the Western hostages detained in Lebanon. The magazine notes that the release of frozen Iranian funds in the United States and Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati's visit [to Algeria] fall within this framework.

Magazine Notes Hizballah's Internal 'Crisis'

NC1111123789 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] The magazine AL-SHIRA' reports that tension between Amal and Hizballah resumed recently. Only the intervention of Syrian forces prevented squabbles from becoming armed clashes in several areas of West Beirut and the Southern Suburb.

Meanwhile, AL-SHIRA' refers to the continuation of the current crisis within Hizballah, especially following the expulsion [ib'ad] of Husayn al-Musawi, who again calls himself the leader of the Islamic Amal Movement. The magazine says that this issue will be discussed when the Hizballah conference resumes its meeting in the middle of this month. The conference failed to settle the crisis last month because of the high decentralization of the party and the failure of efforts to elect a new secretary general for Hizballah.

20 Casualties in 'Booby-Trapped' Car Explosion

NC0811142889 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1420 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Text] A booby-trapped car exploded near a Syrian intelligence center close to the White Palace Hotel, in which displaced people live, in the Abu-Talib area of al-Hamra' district [in West Beirut]. There have been conflicting reports on the losses caused by the explosion.

However, no fewer than 20 people were either killed or wounded in the blast, which was heard in various areas of the capital. Several fires broke out at a taxi parking lot close to the site of the explosion and to a Red Cross office. The model of car used in the explosion is not yet known, although it has been described as U.S.-made. The weight of the explosive charge is not known either.

2 Killed, 17 Wounded

NC0811170089 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Excerpts] A booby-trapped car parked in front of the former Palestinian research center in the Caracas area of al-Hamra' exploded at 1515 today. The explosion killed 2 people and wounded 17 others. [passage omitted]

The fires set off by the blast gutted 13 cars. A fire also broke out in the Palestinian research center.

According to preliminary reports, the booby-trapped car was a maroon Volvo 244. A military expert estimated the weight of the charge at 30 kg of TNT connected to a number of 82-mm projectiles.

Israeli Forces Launch Operation in South

NC0911143989 Paris AFP in English 1405 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] TYRE, Lebanon, Nov 9 (AFP)—The Israeli Army Thursday staged a two-hour operation in Syrian-controlled territory in southern Lebanon after its positions came under rocket attack, police reported.

A unit aboard three troop transports and a jeep moved three kilometers (two miles) north of the Israeli-imposed "security zone" into the Bekaa Valley and opened fire with machineguns, police said.

It was not immediately clear against whom the fire was directed.

Anti-Israeli fighters had earlier Thursday fired 12 Katyusha rockets against positions inside the security zone held by Israeli forces and their proxy militia, the South Lebanon Army, police said.

Voice of Israel radio reported that rockets launched from southern Lebanon in the direction of Israel had fallen short and landed in the security zone, causing no victims.

Also Thursday, Israeli artillery units inside the zone shelled positions held by the pro-Iranian Hizballah movement in the western part of the Bekaa Valley. At least 30 shells exploded in an area where Syrian units are stationed, police said.

Security sources in the region said four Katyusha rockets struck an Israeli position Wednesday along the Israeli-Lebanese border, causing casualties.

The surge in tension in the area followed an Israeli air strike Tuesday on Hizbal'lah targets in the southern Lebanese villages of Mazra'a and Ain Bu Swar.

Mountain Areas Come Under Al-Yarzah Army Fire

NC0911131989 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Positions of al-Yarzah army's gangs in al-Kufur opened machinegun fire on the Shuwayt area this afternoon. The positions of the same gangs in the officers' building also opened sniper fire on the Kayfun area. Al-Karamah road also came under sniper fire from the al-Yarzah army's gangs in the area, wounding one citizen.

Continued Gunfire Reported

NC1211181289 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] The separatist 'Awn gangs have been directing heavy machinegun fire at Dahr al-Wahsh since 1915 this evening. These gangs had resumed their cease-fire violations at 1600 today. 'Ayn 'Nub and its hills and 'Aytat came under rocket and heavy machinegun fire. The road between Baysur and Kayfun was also subjected to intensive sniper fire from positions held by the gangs.

Shelling, Gunfire Continue

NC1211202389 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] Michel 'Awn's separatist gangs continue to disrupt security along the mountain combat lines. They have shelled Ra's al-Jabal with mortar shells and directed intensive sniper fire and sporadic mortar shells at Dahr al-Wahsh from positions in al-Kahhalah.

'Awn 'Gangs' Accused of Cease-fire Violations

NC1011183289 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] For some time now, the Ra's al-Jabal area has been coming under mortar fire from the al-Yarzah [Michel 'Awn-commanded] army positions in Suq al-Gharb. 'Awn's secessionist gangs are repeatedly breaking the cease-fire. At approximately 1730, these gangs shelled Dahr al-Wahsh with mortars. Earlier they directed heavy-caliber machinegun fire at Dahr al-Wahsh and [word indistinct]. Between 1800 and 1900, these gangs directed machinegun fire at Kayfun from their positions in Suq al-Gharb.

Further on 'Awn's 'Gangs'

NC1111201389 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] 'Awn's gangs directed artillery and machinegun fire from their positions in 'Arayya and al-Kahhalah at the nationalist positions in Dahr al-Wahsh.

Rockets Fired at Israeli, Lahd Militia Positions

NC1111072289 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Excerpts] Israeli enemy forces continued their aggression against Lebanese territory on land and from the sea and air. While warplanes have continued their daily sorties over Lebanon and gunboats continue to sail in Lebanese territorial waters, the occupation forces' artillery continued to shell the liberated areas. Enemy artillery shelled several areas in various sectors, particularly in western al-Biqa', in the past hours. An enemy force carried out an incursion into Zummarayya, in the liberated area, and opened fire in all directions. Another force entered Shihin in the western sector. [passage omitted]

AFP has reported that during the past few hours Katyusha rockets were fired, for a 4th day, at Israeli and militia positions inside the occupied border strip. Security sources said that three rockets fell in the vicinity of a position on al-Shurayfah hill, one on a position on Kawkabah hill, and one in Metullah settlement inside occupied Palestinian territory.

2 Israeli Soldiers Reportedly Killed in South

NC1111124789 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] Arrivals from the occupied area have confirmed the deaths of two Zionist soldiers, one of whom was a commissioned officer. The enemy radio had said they were wounded last Thursday when an explosive charge planted by national resistance fighters detonated on the al-Ahmadiyah road.

In another development, three Katyusha rockets were fired at an enemy-backed militia position in the same area.

Fighting Reported; Syrian Killed in West Beirut

NC1111205189 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] Since 2145, fighting has been going on on the Dahr al-Wahsh-'Alayh battle line [in the Mountain area]. Tanks and mortars are being used in the shelling. Al-Kahhalah is also coming under heavy-caliber machinegun fire.

In West Beirut, security sources say that a clash between Syrian and Amal personnel occurred at 1800 on the airport road. A Syrian was killed and another was injured; an Amal member was also injured.

In another development, responsible Hizballah sources have cautioned against possible fighting with the Amal Movement in the South due to Amal's provocations against Hizballah, as the sources put it. The sources added that Hizballah forces in the Southern Suburb have been placed on partial alert after recent raids by the Amal Movement against Hizballah centers during which the movement confiscated arms and weapons.

It is known that the Amal Movement is opposed to operations against Israel and the so-called security zone for fear of reprisals from the South Lebanese army and the Israeli forces.

Group Claims Attack Against Syrians in Tripoli

NC1311101789 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 13 Nov 89

[Text] The 16 January Organization for the Liberation of Tripoli declared that a group of its gunmen attacked a Syrian checkpoint manned by the occupation forces at the northern entrance to the port near the railway station at 0315 this morning. The group said that a number of Syrians were killed or injured in the attack.

Amal, Hizballah Clash in Al-Biqa' 12 Nov

NC1311152489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1430 GMT 13 Nov 89

[Text] Tension is high in the township of Suhmur, south of al-Biqa', in the wake of the heavy clashes which broke out between Hizballah and Amal Movement personnel last night. The fighting, which lasted more than 12 hours, left an Amal member and a civilian wounded.

Amal and Hizballah representatives and Syrian officers attended a meeting today to discuss the causes of the clashes. Meanwhile, scores of Suhmur inhabitants staged a sit-in along the contact line dividing the town to protest the internecine strife between the two Shiite organizations.

Commentary Criticizes Iraqi Support for 'Awn

JN1111155689 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners: It is not unusual for the Iraqi regime to renew its support for Michel 'Awn, head of the Zionized isolationist clique in Lebanon, shortly after the Israeli entity has done so. With this support, the Iraqi regime stresses that it is an exception in its departure from Arab and international unanimity, which supports Lebanese legitimacy as represented in the election of President Rene Mu'awwad. By renewing its support for 'Awn, the Iraqi regime not only rejects Lebanese legitimacy, but also seeks through this support to back up Israel and the Israeli agents in Lebanon by playing a new conspiratorial role threatening Lebanon, taking it back to the cycle of violence, explosion, subversion, and fratricide. Otherwise, what is the meaning of Iraq's public assertion in the current circumstances of its support for 'Awn and for the plot he is seeking to peddle at the best opportunity, thus placing Lebanon in a zone of danger in implementation of the Zionist scheme against Lebanon and the Arab nation? What do the assertions of Saddam Husayn's regime mean at a time when the Lebanese people are looking forward to salvation, formation of a national reconciliation government, and implementation of the al-Ta'if agreement? What is the meaning of the Iraqi regime's declaration that its stand toward the Lebanese crisis has not changed, and that its objection to Arab and national Lebanese efforts, which led to the historic al-Ta'if agreement, continues? What is the meaning of its declaration that it objects to ending fratricide among the Lebanese brothers and to building a new healthy Lebanon, and its declaration that it will continue to support 'Awn's confrontation with Lebanese President Rene Mu'awwad?

There is no answer to all these questions and all these big question marks except what Zionist enemy Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir announced 2 days before these foolish assertions and declarations by the Baghdad regime against legitimacy, reconciliation, reform, and political solution in Lebanon. Shamir expressed his readiness to extend support for 'Awn, including full military aid to his forces in order to deal with the recent developments in the Lebanese arena after the election of President Mu'awwad. Thus, Shamir was the one who insinuated to the Iraqi regime that it adopt the conspiratorial Israeli stand against Lebanon—a stand which came to a halt when the war of destruction and subversion practiced by 'Awn began with his shelling, his rejection of the political solution, his obstruction of the presidential election, and his leveling of foolhardy hysterical threats against the Lebanese deputies and key political and religious figures who found out that his behavior and practices place Lebanon on the brink of the abyss and threaten its unity—present, and future.

Lebanon, through its national forces and honorable and sincere representatives, has spoken its decisive word on 'Awn. Moreover, the whole world has welcomed and supported the march of the solution as drawn up by the al-Ta'if meetings, which were crowned by the accord document and the election of President Mu'awwad. If the tools of the plot try to continue their deception and evil, and spit out their venom, using 'Awn punitively against Lebanon and its unity, the Lebanese people will continue to lie in wait for all parties to this plot which joined ranks to wreak havoc and evil. Lebanon has really entered the phase of salvation and guaranteed its legitimacy as embodied by President-elect Rene Mu'awwad. Those who are making claims among the Zionist clique no longer have any place or destiny except that of retreat, isolation, withdrawal, and defeat in the face of the Lebanese people's insistence on following the path of solution, reconciliation, and reform.

Paper on Lebanon's New Era, Syria's Commitment

JN0711082489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 7 Nov 89

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial, the newspaper AL-THAWRAH highlights an important aspect of the historic achievement in the Lebanese arena by saying: Unification of the national stand to restore the legitimate institutions is the necessary prelude to stop those who tamper with Lebanon's unity, destiny, and future. This is because Lebanon's new era begins when its legitimate institutions recover and begin once more to assume their role. AL-THAWRAH affirms that this represents the symbol of Lebanon's unity—land and people—and its Arab identity and allegiance. This also represents an important and basic step for the continuation of the accord and solution process.

AL-THAWRAH adds: The translation and embodiment of the national accord document mean an end to Lebanon's crisis, a step forward on the way to stability, and recovery of Lebanon's normal, safe life.

AL-THAWRAH concludes: Syria, which supported Lebanon since the beginning of the crisis, views what has been built to establish a new era as an important step. Moreover, Syria, as all Lebanese know and as leader al-Asad said in his cable to Lebanon's new president Mu'awwad, will continue its strong support of the accord process and provide help and backing until Lebanon recovers and liberates its territories from the Israeli occupation.

Press Cited on Support for New Lebanese Republic

JN0811104489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 8 Nov 89

[Press review]

[Text] In its editorial, the newspaper AL-BA'TH speaks about the phase of Lebanese national solidarity which was crowned by the election of a new president for Lebanon. The paper says: The historic achievement witnessed by Lebanon through the election of a new president for the republic has more than one implication on all levels. The sisterly country, which suffered many tribulations and was often threatened by partition and division, has transcended the most critical phase with

the birth of the new republic. Through its popular will, the sisterly country has also started a new phase diametrically opposed to the previous one.

AL-BA'TH adds: The Arab and international support for the constitutional election has uncovered the big conspiracy against Lebanon, whose threads the Zionist enemy weaved and for whose implementation it activated its tools in Baghdad, al-Yarzah, and the occupied south. However, this conspiracy has collapsed due to the determination of the Lebanese people to cling to their right to life and honorable existence.

AL-BA'TH goes on to say: The reckless intransigence and stupid practices performed by the Zionized al-Yarzah general cannot be an obstacle of any kind to the momentum of awakening and construction—a momentum which began through the serious, loyal message President Mu'awwad addressed to the people of Lebanon immediately after his election.

AL-BA'TH concludes: Popular support for President Mu'awwad and Arab and international backing for his new era, which is considered a symbol of unity and solidarity, confirm to everyone that Lebanon's peace process has begun and that Lebanon is looking forward to a bright future.

Under the headline "The Lebanese People Will Not Forget," AL-THAWRAH says: The Lebanese people who have been patient for a long time will never forget. They follow developments and record their results. After every event, they sort out those who sacrificed for the sake of the homeland from those who plotted its destruction during the most critical moments it has experienced.

AL-THAWRAH adds: When all the Lebanese people—represented by their factions, forces, and political and spiritual affiliations—rally round the president-elect and the achievements realized for their benefit in record time, they will be confirming to the world a fundamental fact—namely, that Lebanon will not be anybody's farm, and that its independence and the unity of its people and land will not be harmed by a reckless adventurer regardless of the pillars he is resting on, and that the naive, egoistic ambitions 'Awn is aspiring to realize can never be realized at the expense of the homeland and the people whatever the sacrifices or circumstances might be.

AL-THAWRAH goes on to say: The march that crowned its victory in the Lebanese arena by national accord and reconciliation will proceed forward. Lebanon will remain the option of the honest and loyal people, and Syria will remain the sacrificing sister whenever sacrifice and support are warranted.

AL-THAWRAH concludes: Let the historic achievement that has been realized in Lebanon be a turning point in the life of the homeland and the people, a momentous change in the national course, and a step forward on the way to building the new Lebanon with its national character and pan-Arab dimensions. Undoubtedly, the homeland will surely have a day of reckoning with its enemies.

TV Reports Egyptian-Iraqi 'Political Crisis'

JN1211195889 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] The political crisis between the Egyptian Government and the Iraqi regime has been exacerbated following the return of Egyptian workers to their country and their disclosures about their suffering and the inhumane practices they were subjected to during their stay in Iraq at the hands of the henchmen of the Iraqi regime, which pushed them into the furnace of the unjust war against Iran.

Reports published today and yesterday by the Egyptian press noted that relations between Egypt and the Iraqi regime are threatened by the problem of Egyptian workers in Iraq who return in large numbers to their country without being able to transfer their savings, in addition to being subjected to unjust practices in Iraq.

AL-AHRAM cites banking sources as saying that, since June 1989, 1 million Egyptian workers have returned from Iraq for good while their savings, which amount to about $200 million, remain frozen by the Iraqi regime.

The day before yesterday, AL-AKHBAR revealed that the Iraqi regime has killed a number of Egyptian workers in suspicious circumstances. On the same day, AL-WAFD published the story of an Egyptian worker who was killed by the Iraqi regime's security forces and the story of another worker who was stabbed to death. The paper pointed out that Cairo airport daily receives about 10 bodies of Egyptian workers who were killed or died in mysterious circumstances.

According to AL-WAFD, the Iraqi regime's vindictive practices against the Egyptian workers are due to political reasons, the most important of which is the Iraqi regime's dissatisfaction about the detente in Arab ties and the developments in Lebanon following the signing of the al-Ta'if agreement.

Dissident Fatah Congress Cables Al-Asad

JN0911212689 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Damascus—President Hafiz al-Asad has received a cable of greetings, appreciation and respect from the fifth general congress of the [dissident] Palestine National Liberation Movement-Fatah, pledging to continue the struggle to achieve the nation's objectives.

The cable, signed by Colonel Abu-Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], secretary of the movement's Central Committee, reads:

On the territory of sisterly steadfast Syria, the birthplace of our revolution and the center of pan-Arab confrontation of enemy plots, the fifth general congress of the Palestine National Liberation Movement-Fatah is now being held. The congress sends to you warmest greetings of struggle and affirms to your excellency that the

pan-Arab trust, whose banners and objectives you defend, is highly appreciated and greatly esteemed by our movement.

While tackling the issues of our revolution and people, our movement's congress understands the difficulties threatening our national and pan-Arab struggle. These difficulties are the plots against the central cause of our nation's struggle—namely, the Palestinian cause. However, we are confident that steadfast Syria, under your firm, valiant, and experienced leadership, genuinely constitutes a basic guarantee to foil all the conspiracies of the imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary enemy.

Revolutionary Syria has played and still plays a central role on the pan-Arab level in thwarting and foiling attacks, and has offered in this cause tens of thousands of martyrs, whose pure blood watered our pan-Arab soil in Syria, Palestine, and Lebanon.

While aware of the magnitude of the difficulties and dangers stemming from the capitulationist schemes that are being diligently peddled, our movement's congress sees in steadfast Syria, under your pan-Arab leadership, a strong motive to hold faithfully to the movement's objectives, principles, bases, and revolutionary methods in carrying out its struggle.

Your Excellency, our congress has reaffirmed the continuation of our Palestinian revolution and the inevitability of the victory of our cause despite the plots of the capitulationists and defeatists. Our congress pledges to the masses of our nation and people that it will continue its commitment to the struggle to liberate Palestine.

Prime Minister Receives Slovak Interior Minister

JN1011090389 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi received at 1330 today Stefan Lazar, minister of the interior and living environment of the Slovak Socialist Republic, [title as heard] and his delegation. Local Administration Minister Ahmad Diyab and the CSSR ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. The talks dealt with progress in cooperation between Syria and Czechoslovakia in various economic, trade, cultural, and scientific fields, as well as in the exchange of expertise and experiments and promotion of this cooperation on a continuous basis.

Lazar expressed his appreciation of the economic and social progress Syria is achieving, and the importance of bolstering the basis of cooperation in all fields with the purpose of realizing the results the two countries are seeking.

The prime minister also reviewed the Slovak minister's talks in Damascus, affirming their importance in strengthening the foundations and objectives of cooperation between the two friendly countries.

Afghanistan

GDR Leaders Respond to Najibullah's Cable

LD0711094389 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 7 Nov 89

[Text] Kabul, Nov. 6, BAKHTAR—Egon Krenz, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party and president of the State Council of the German Democratic Republic "GDR" and Willi Stoph, chairman of the Council of Ministers of that country have sent a gratefulness message addressed to Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan (RA) and Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers of the RA in reply to their congratutatory message sent to Berlin on the occasion of 40th anniversary of the establishment of the German Democratic Republic.

Also, an acknowledgement message of Oskar Fischer, foreign minister of the GDR addressed to 'Abdul Wakil, minister of foreign affairs of the RA is received.

Tanay Interviewed on Defense Capabilities

LD1211065289 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0521 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] Kabul, Nov. 11, BAKHTAR—Although armed criminal activities of our enemies have not yet ended but in the past eight months the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan [RA] have defended their country with such high morale and heroism that have bewildered the enemies, says General Shahnawaz Tanay, alternate Politburo member of the Central Committee of the PDPA [People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan] and minister of defence of the RA in an interview with daily PAYAM reporter.

Touching on the enemy's attacks on Nangarhar Province, including Jalalabad city, the Afghan defence minister emphasized that the combined forces of the enemy, that is, the Pakistani intruders, the armed extremists and Saudi Wahhabis, have been defeated several times by the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan.

Presently, the enemy is mainly resorting to the firing of heavy weapons on the security posts. Shellings take place from long distances and the enemy's forces have been pushed back far away from the city, said General Tanay.

When the enemy's offensive in Nangarhar front was routed, the Pakistani generals opened another regular war front in Khowst under the false illusion of compensating their defeat in Nangarhar Province. In second extensive offensive the enemies in Khowst District were also faced with failure. Now the condition in Khowst District is relatively calm.

General Tanay said that another objective of the enemy was and is to block the high-ways permanently. The enemy concentrated on Kabul-Hairatan and Kabul-Jalalabad highway but every time the extremist faced with defeat and sustained huge human and material casualties.

In the countries' strategic cities like Kabul, Qandahar, Jalalabad, Khowst and Herat, the enemies efforts have been confined to the firing of long-range rockets on the cities and residential areas. In order to rebuff these rocket attacks serious measures are being taken. The recent mopping up operation in Lalandar area Kabul Province by the Armed Forces of the RA resulted in seizing a number of the enemy's rockets.

Replying to another question on the probable activities of the enemy in the future, the Afghan defence minister envisaged that the armed extremists have been kept alive as a result of the assistance of the United States of America and the possibilities provided them by Pakistan.

In addition, the enemies have suffered huge human and material losses in the fronts of Nangarhar, Khowst, and Qandahar. Another favourable development, General Tanay recalled, is that a large number of local commanders belonging to the armed groups have given up hostility and have joined the policy of national reconciliation. It can be said in one word that the armed extremists have been isolated from the people and on the contrary the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan are being further strengthened.

Mujahidin Liberate Most of Oruzgan Province

BK0911155689 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan the mujahidin have liberated the entire province of Oruzgan, except for a small cantonment area in Tarin Kowt. They carried out an artillery attack on the Kabul regime's military positions in Tarin Kowt in which 6 soldiers were killed and four others arrested with their weapons.

The reports say the mujahidin killed 40 Kabul regime troops during attacks on the positions of the puppet regime in Qandahar city and its airport. Four of the regime's tanks were damaged by mines in the airport area.

There are also reports of fighting between the mujahidin and the Kabul regime forces in Helmand, Badakhshan, Parvan, Laghman, and Jowzjan Provinces in which the Kabul regime forces suffered heavy losses in men and materiel.

Mujahidin Attacks on Qandahar, Kabul Noted

BK1211154089 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that the mujahidin launched rocket attacks on the Army Corps II in Qandahar, destroying an ammunition dump and killing a commander and 15 members of the Kabul regime's militia. According to the news agency of the Afghan interim government, MIDIA [MEDIA INFORMATION DEPARTMENT OF ISLAMIC AFGHANISTAN], the mujahidin also attacked a new military division northeast of the city, killing nine officers and four soldiers.

The news agency reports that the Kabul regime has full control over (Mevin) District, which represents only one of the 15 districts in Qandahar. It reports that mujahidin have captured the outpost (Towr Kotal) of the Kabul regime between Spin Buldak and Qandahar. They also attacked the Baghran airport, damaging a helicopter and two tanks of the Kabul regime, and ambushed a convoy carrying reinforcements on the Kabul-Parvan highway, damaging two tanks and six armored vehicles. The news agency has reported that the mujahidin repulsed attacks of Kabul regime soldiers on their positions in (Sakarine) District in Kabul. During this fighting, (?35) officers and soldiers of the Kabul regime were killed.

10 Die in 'Extremists' Missile Attack on Kabul

LD1211160389 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] The criminal extremists supported by Pakistan today fired 10 surface-to-surface missiles onto crowded residential areas of Kabul, martyring and injuring a number of our compatriots.

BAKHTAR's military section reports that based on the sinister plans of U.S. and Pakistani state terrorism, the extremist groups targetted residential and populated areas of Kabul with U.S. surface-to-surface missiles. As a result of this shameful, inhumane action, 10 of our compatriots were martyred and 5 others were injured, including women and children. The number of casualties may go higher. The injured were transferred to a hospital immediately and placed under treatment and close observation.

Financial losses also were inflicted on our compatriots as a result of this inhumane action by the enemies of our compatriots' peace and tranquillity.

India

'Terrorists' Kill 19 Students at Punjab College

BK1011065089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] In Punjab, the death toll in the early morning shoot-out in a local college in Patiala has risen to 18, with 2 more students succumbing to injuries. Sixteen students were killed on the spot, while eight seriously injured were admitted to the hospital.

According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, the victims, along with the other participants of the annual youth festival, were sleeping in a hall of the local college when five to six terrorists sneaked in around 0230 this morning and fired indiscriminately, killing the students.

Security forces all over the state have been alerted, and a massive manhunt has been launched to apprehend the culprits. The Punjab governor, Mr S.S. Ray; his adviser, Mr R.P. Khanna; and the director general of police, Mr K.P.S. Gill, along with other senior officials, have rushed to the site of the crime.

Gandhi Reacts to Killings

BK1011140589 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] In Punjab, the death toll in the morning shoot-out in a local college in Patiala has risen to 19, with 3 more students succumbing to injuries. Sixteen students were killed on the spot. The victims, along with the other participants of the annual youth festival, were sleeping in the hall of a local college when five to six terrorists sneaked in and fired indiscriminately, killing the students.

Security forces all over the state have been put on maximum alert, and a massive manhunt has been launched to apprehend the culprits. Eleven of the dead have been identified.

The Punjab governor, Mr S.S. Ray, has announced payment of an ex gratia amount of 1 lakh rupees each to the next of kin of the deceased. The Haryana government has also announced an immediate relief of 20,000 rupees each to the families of those killed and 10,000 rupees each to the seriously injured students belonging to the state.

The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has expressed deep sorrow over the killing of young people. In a message, he said that it is a very despicable act of terrorists and should be condemned by all. The prime minister said that this is the time for all sections of society, particularly political and social organizations, to come together in a united way and express themselves unequivocally against such dastardly acts and menace of terrorists.

Addressing a public meeting in Jammu today, the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, said that the government will deal firmly with terrorist activities in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. He said roots of the terrorism are outside the country and powers behind the menace are now trying to spread it to Jammu and Kashmir also. Terrorism in Kashmir will also be dealt with strongly without any concession. The prime minister said the unity and integrity of the country is supreme and there cannot be any compromise.

The union home minister, Mr Buta Singh, today reviewed the law and order situation in Punjab with senior officials of the Home Ministry. He also spoke to the chief ministers and chief secretaries of the neighboring states and impressed upon them the need to be alert to maintain law and order in view of the latest terrorist attack on innocent students at Patiala. Mr Buta Singh condemned the devilish act by the terrorists against the nation and called upon the people to remain peaceful and not to get provoked.

Gandhi Warns Other States Against Interference

BK1311092489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Nov 89

[Text] The prime minister has warned foreign countries against interfering in the internal affairs of the country.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi was addressing a public meeting at Banda in Uttar Pradesh today. Mr Gandhi referred to the statements made by three foreign leaders and asked them to keep away from our affairs. He charged some foreign radios with conspiring to foment communal disturbances by propagating all kinds of rumors regarding India. He said the government had foiled their attempts, but the propaganda still continues.

Spokesman Rejects Bhutto Statement on Muslims

BK1111161989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] The shilanyas [foundation laying] program at Ayodhya [to build Hindu temple] has concluded, with the local administration declining to accede to a request of the organizers to continue digging work at the site. An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that the Government of India, the Uttar Pradesh government, the courts of law, and many men and women of good will have succeeded in not allowing religious fervor to deteriorate into bigotry and violence in connection with events in Ayodhya in the past few days. He said that elaborate arrangements were made by the central and state governments to ensure law and order and the sanctity and safety of the disputed premises. The site of the foundation stone ceremony was well outside the disputed premises as claimed by the Sunni Central Waqf [Muslim Endowment] Board.

The spokesman said the Government and the people of India are firmly committed to secularism, tolerance, and nonviolence. The interest of the majority and minority communities have been successfully harmonized in the country.

Reacting to the purported statement of the Pakistan prime minister, Ms Benazir Bhutto, on Ayodhya, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry has said the Government of India rejects unwarranted interference in the country's internal affairs by outsiders. Those who have solved their own minority problem by virtually eliminating the minorities in their own country would be well advised not to indulge in hypocritical platitudes about the treatment of minorities who enjoy full religious and other freedom as proud citizens of India.

The spokesman said that rather then misleading their own people with false propaganda, the Pakistani establishment should concentrate on preventing ethnic and sectarian violence and killings of Muslims in their own country. He said their statement is a biased distortion of facts and betrays the total ignorance of the complexities of this issue.

The spokesman said the Government and people of India are fully capable of handling their own internal affairs without motivated and malicious meddling from outside.

Home Minister on Communal Violence, Minorities

BK1211160989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] The home minister, Mr Buta Singh, has reiterated the government's resolve to maintain communal peace at any cost. He said those guilty of indulging in communal violence will be strongly dealt with.

In a statement today, Mr Singh said the interests of the minorities—as also those of the majority community affected by fresh communal violence—will duly be protected. He appealed to all sections of people not to be taken in by mischievous and motivated propaganda. Mr Buta Singh said no place of worship or any area considered sacred or hallowed will be allowed to be desecrated or defiled in any way. He said the recent incidents of communal violence, especially in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, are a matter of great concern and sorrow, particularly when we are celebrating the centenary of Jawaharlal Nehru.

Mr Buta Singh said every effort is being made to maintain the traditions of communal peace and amity which are enshrined in the Constitution and form the bedrock of our secular policies. He said most of these incidents have been deliberately contrived to create a communal divide. The government made a determined effort to see that while there was no interference with religious traditions, the interests of the weaker sections and minorities were not undermined in any way. It is important for every Indian to understand this so that the democratic and social fabric of the country is not affected through vicious and mischievous allegations or propaganda.

On the Babri Masjid-Rama Janmabhoomi [shrine in Uttar Pradesh claimed by both Hindus and Muslims] dispute, the home minister said unfortunately a controversy has been created over the site of the shilanyas [laying of the foundation stone]. Mr Buta Singh said keeping in view the sentiments of the large mass of Muslims, very strong protection was accorded to the Babri Mosque lest there may be any attempt on the part of the misguided elements to cause any mischief. A large number of police and paramilitary forces were therefore deployed for this purpose, and the sanctity of the Babri Masjid has not been allowed to be violated in any way.

Mr Buta Singh reiterated that a deliberate effort is being made by certain elements both inside and outside the country to present a distorted picture. There is absolutely no truth in the statements. The interests of minorities are sacrosanct as far as the government is concerned, the minister added.

2 Killed, 30 Injured in Varanasi Group Clashes

BK1211090489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] In Uttar Pradesh, two persons were killed in group clashes in Varanasi city yesterday evening. A police spokesman told our Lucknow correspondent today that the police resorted to firing to control a violent mob

which indulged in heavy stone throwing and arson in the Kotwali area. Thirty persons, including eleven police personnel, were injured. The situation is stated to be tense but under control. Additional police forces have been rushed to maintain law and order in the city.

'At Least' 5 Die in Eastern Hindu-Muslim Violence

BK1111091089 Hong Kong AFP in English 0834 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 11 (AFP)—Renewed Hindu-Muslim violence has flared in the rural areas of an eastern Indian district, leaving at least five people dead and breaking a brief respite, press reports said here Saturday.

Arsonists torched about 100 houses as the violence erupted Friday in four villages centred on Bihar state's Bhagalpur town, where more than 200 people died in 10 days of rioting that erupted October 24, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said.

A crowd surrounded Jamalpur village, 30 kilometres (18 miles) from the town, and burned down 35 houses, the news agency said. Police found four charred bodies in the village.

One person was killed and 25 houses were burned in Gaura village by arsonists who also rampaged in Khulni and Khaira villages, the news agency said. Police detained 47 rioters in Khaira.

The latest violence broke a brief spell of calm in Bhagalpur, a major district in Bihar state, where Hindus and Muslims attacked each other with guns, knives and bombs after a religious procession was stoned.

It was not immediately known if the flare-up was connected to a Hindu-Muslim dispute over a religious site in northern Uttar Pradesh state where Hindu fundamentalists on Thursday launched the construction of a temple.

The dispute has sent religious passions soaring ahead of general elections due this month.

25 Policemen Injured in Kashmir Stone Throwing

BK0911145289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, 25 policemen were injured when a violent mob indulged in stone throwing in Anantnag town this morning. According to the deputy commissioner, prohibitory orders have been imposed in the town. The violent mob also damaged two government vehicles. The situation is now under control.

Bomb Blast, Arson, Violence Reported in Kashmir

BK1011145289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, one person was seriously injured in a bomb blast in Durganag area of Srinagar City today. In another part of the city, police resorted to lathi [baton] charge and used tear gas shells to disperse miscreants who were indulging in heavy stone pelting. Police also fired some shots in the air.

In Anantnag, violent mobs ransacked some buildings and set ablaze a bank building, but timely action by the fire brigade brought the fire under control.

Air Force MiG-21 Crashes in Punjab 10 Nov

BK1011120189 Hong Kong AFP in English 1151 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 10 (AFP)—An Indian Air Force MiG-21 crashed near an airfield in the northern Indian state of Punjab Friday, seriously injuring the pilot, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported.

The plane crashed minutes after it took off from Adampur airport in Jullandhar district at 11:20 a.m. local time (0550 GMT), the agency said.

An Indian Air Force spokesman here said the report was being checked.

Vice President Departs for London 11 Nov

BK1111082089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] The vice president, Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma, accompanied by a high-level delegation, left New Delhi for London this morning on a 5-day visit to Britain.

Before departure, he said he will be discussing with the British leaders, including the prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, economic and other matters of mutual interest aimed at renewing and strengthening our age-old ties.

All India Radio correspondent Khalid Qureshi, who is accompanying the vice president, reports that the visit marks the culmination of a series of events organized in Britain over the past year to commemorate the birth centenary of Jawaharlal Nehru. Dr Sharma will deliver the Nehru memorial lecture under the auspices of the Union Society, Cambridge, on Monday [13 November]. He will also participate in a public meeting organized by the India League. Among other engagements, the vice president will inaugurate a colloquium "India and the West" and unveil a plaque at a house in (Elgin Crescent).

Iran

Official on Frozen Assets, Islamic Dress Issue

LD0911201389 Tehran IRNA in English 1910 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Excerpts] Tehran, Nov. 9, IRNA—A Foreign Ministry official today said Washington's repayment to Iran of dlrs 567 mn as part of its debts was in no way a sign of the U.S. Administration's goodwill.

'The U.S. is to repay the amount to Iran upon a ruling of the international court at The Hague now investigating

Iran-U.S. claims against each other,' Mahmud Va'ezi, deputy foreign minister for Euro-America Affairs said. [passage omitted]

On the controversial ban on the hijab (Islamic dress) at French schools, Va'ezi made it clear that 'wearing the Hijab by Muslim women is to do with their Islamic beliefs and France cannot force Muslims to abandon their beliefs through propaganda and politicizing the issue.'

'France's stance on the issue is in defiance of the spirit of freedom and contrary to its claims of observing human rights,' he said.

The deputy foreign minister said if France or any other country tried to prevent Muslims from performing their religious duties, they would merely be disgusted by over one billion Muslims throughout the world. He warned that 'the Islamic Republic of Iran is never indifferent to such profanity against Islamic beliefs.'

'Reaction' to Repayment Issue

LD1011184289 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] Our correspondent reports on the reaction to the news of the U.S. repayment of over $570 million of Iran's assets:

[Correspondent] Last Monday, the international legal services section of the Presidential Office announced that $570 million of Iran's assets which had been frozen by the U.S. Government will be deposited into an account of the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran by the end of Aban [month beginning 23 October]. Previously, the U.S. Government announced that it had released $567 million of Iran's frozen assets, to be paid out to Iran through the tribunal in The Hague which is dealing with the two countries' financial claims. In the wake of the publication of the two aforementioned news items, the Western media embarked on the publication of articles which portrayed signs of improvement of relations between Iran and the United States, trying to connect this issue to the release of the U.S. hostages in Lebanon through the publication of various articles and commentaries.

Meanwhile, a number of U.S. groups tried to find a connection between the repayment of a part of the Iranian assets and the issue of hostages, while Mr Nobari-Heyrani, the Islamic Republic of Iran's representative in the case of Iran-U.S. claims in the court at The Hague, announced: The released assets constitute the remainder of the Iranian assets which had been deposited in account No 2, which should have been paid out to Iran through the country's natural settlement procedure following the conclusion of its banking claims—and this issue bears no relation to the issue of hostages.

With regard to the same issue, we contacted Mr Eftekahr-Jahromi, the president's legal adviser and the supervisor of Iran's office of international legal affairs. Having rejected any connection between the repayment of Iran's assets and the U.S. hostages, he said: This repayment is merely the implementation of one of the agreements reached in accordance with the Algerian declarations, on the basis of which the sum of one $1.4 billion was deposited in a trust fund as repayment of the nonsyndicated claims of the U.S. banks, to be paid out to meet claims by the creditor banks. In the course of the agreements which were being reached in order to clear such banking debts, Iran's banking funds were reciprocally received from the U.S. banks. During this interview, he also expounded on the trend of the financial settlement, saying: After these financial settlements, the aforementioned remaining account totals to over $810 million, and following the agreements reached between the two countries representatives in The Hague tribunal, it was decided that the sum of $576 million should be paid out to the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and that the remainder should be deposited as a supplement to the trust fund which is in the Algerian Central Bank in The Hague tribunal account.

He added: In the course of these negotiations, however, the United States has guaranteed to pay the sum of $11.2 million toward the settlement of accounts of some small files. With regard to this, the U.S. President in a news conference last Tuesday, expressed hope that the repayment of this sum may be regarded as a goodwill gesture by Iran. But the deputy foreign minister of our country in charge of European and U.S. affairs [Mahmud Va'ezi] having rejected the existence of any connection between the issue of the hostages and the repayment of the debts to Iran, reiterated that if the U.S. wishes to show its goodwill, it should release all Iranian assets which it has illegally frozen for over 10 years.

Daily Criticizes Bush Remarks

LD1211125189 Tehran IRNA in English 1240 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 12, IRNA—A morning daily Sunday criticised the U.S. President George Bush for his remarks last week that the return of dlrs 576 million of Iran's assets should be considered by Tehran as a sign of U.S. good-will.

In a front-page commentary 'ABRAR' said these remarks, if not regarded an illusion, should be considered as a sign of the skillfulness the Americans have learned from their British brethren.

The British too, the paper said, took the release of an Iranian revolutionary, Kurosh Fuladi after he spent 10 years in British dungeons, as a 'good-will' measure and expected the release of the British spy Roger Cooper in reply.

No doubt, the article stressed, the U.S. expects resumption of ties with Iran in return for its 'good-will' gesture and would like the Islamic Republic to open its doors to the Americans, the traces of whose crimes are still visible in the country.

The daily commented that in diplomatic language, this policy is called the 'policy of deceiving public opinion' or in other words the policy of hegemony.

It also referred to the recent statement of the U.S. Undersecretary of State John Kelley that the U.S.-Iran dispute is over the breach of human rights in Iran as well as its alleged support for terrorism and hostage taking, noting that as long as Iran did not abandoning this policy no improvement in relations could be expected.

These statements, the daily noted, showed the attitude of the U.S. Administration vis-a-vis the rightful stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran and proved their 'good-will' towards Iran.

UN's Eliasson Briefs Velayati on Iraq Talks

LD0911172989 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] Mr Eliasson, the UN secretary general's special envoy, informed Foreign Minister Velayati, in a meeting this evening following his return from Baghdad, of the results of his talks with Iraqi officials.

In that meeting Mr Velayati stressed that the United Nations's efforts should definitely concentrate on the speedy implementation of Resolution 598. He added that issues not connected with the resolution or aimed at weakening it and the role of the secretary general should not be considered.

Mr Eliasson that his mission is to implement quickly the Security Council's resolution, and all UN efforts are concentrated along those lines.

Foreign Ministry Deplores 'Massacre' in India

LD1111180189 Tehran IRNA in English 1632 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 11, IRNA—The Foreign Ministry today strongly deplored the massacre in India, and desecration of Islamic sites by chauvinist Hindu elements.

In its statement, the ministry denouncing the atrocities as "a global arrogance plot" regretted the not too infrequent occurance of such barbarities against Muslims in India. The statement called on Muslims the world over from all walks of life to show solidarity with their brethren in India and announce their "hatred" against these crimes.

The Indian Government's "real" support for Muslims is the immediate taking of effective measures for preventing extremist Hindus from repeating their aggressions, stressed the statement. "It is the only way to stop such a catastrophe and restore to the Muslims their violated rights," the Foreign Ministry said.

India is home to nearly 200 million Muslims, and in what could turn into an explosive issue, Hindu extremists have encroached upon the grounds of a historical mosque, claiming the site to be the birthplace of one of their mythological figures.

The country is in the grip of elections, and the row over the Babri Masjid in Ayodha is being exploited by political parties eager to fan the flames of communal hatred.

Jordan Elections Seen as Intifadah Victory

LD1111182989 Tehran IRNA in English 1653 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] Athens, Nov 11, IRNA—The unexpected success of a large number of Islamists in Wednesday's elections in Jordan has surprised, but thrilled Jordanians.

The Ikhwan or Muslim Brotherhood together with other Islamic groups have secured 34 seats in the 80-member parliament.

Jordanian residents in Greece, contacted by IRNA, expressing great joy over the Islamic victory were united in their views that the results herald a good omen for intifadah in occupied Palestine.

Muhammad from Amman, a doctor in an Athens hospital, said "it is a great day for Islam in our country and a direct reaction to the intifadah." Full names of interviewees have been concealed for obvious reasons.

A civil engineer from Irbid, who lives in Athens since many years, said the election outcome was a "big slap in the face of King Husayn," who had called on the people not to vote for Islamic candidates. "Despite years of Westernization campaign by the Husayn regime in Jordan, the people have chosen Islam. It is a great victory for Muslims," he emphasized with joy.

A Palestinian journalist said the election results show the backing of the Jordanian people to the Islamic current which is spreading in the Arab-Islamic countries like Egypt and Turkey. He pointed out that the election of Mansur Murad, a Circassian, who took part in a 1969 bomb attack by Palestinian freedom fighters against the Israeli El Al airline in Athens, is a clear signal for support to the intifadah.

Ibrahim, a surgeon from Amman, welcoming the results expresses caution over the capability of the Islamist deputies to change anything in the country. He said King Husayn possessed the prerogative of dissolving the parliament whenever he feels his rule is under threat. "The Islamists have to be very careful in their plans and programmes," he warned.

Tehran Radio on Election Results

NC1211090889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0455 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Commentary prepared by the Central News Unit's Research Group]

[Excerpts] In the name of God. The results of the parliamentary elections in Jordan reveal a great victory for the Islamic groups. The Muslim Brotherhood won 20 of the 80 seats in the Jordanian parliament and 11 independent deputies with Islamic inclinations were also elected. [passage omitted]

Since the recent reforms effected under the pressure of the Jordanian Muslims' April uprising, new developments are being closely followed in the West and the region. The Egyptian, Iraqi, and Saudi regimes are concerned by the recent developments in Jordan, developments which can create political problems for their own regimes. King Husayn's mentors in the West are concerned over the victory of the Muslim Brotherhood and the independent Muslim candidates. [passage omitted]

The fact that the Muslim Brotherhood does not consider itself a political group or party and so was able to continue its activities in past decades is considered a positive point for King Husayn's regime. What make this group a big threat to the Jordanian regime is its religious-political demands. The Muslim Brotherhood's slogan during the elections was: Islam is the solution. As this slogan led it to great victory, this group will raise issues in parliament such as the need for laws to conform with shari'a and for a fight against corruption within the government. This will create new problems for King Husayn.

The Muslim Brotherhood and the independent Muslim deputies also call for confrontation with the Zionist regime and oppose the compromising plans and moderate stand of King Husayn and the reactionary Arab regimes. The contrast between their political outlook and King Husayn's policy on the Palestinian issue can give rise to more problems for the Jordanian regime. Meanwhile, the existence of such ideas among the Muslim Brotherhood and the independent Muslim deputies has terrified the West. This fear was exacerbated by the revelation of the popularity of these forces and their ideas among the masses, resulting in the West's strong propaganda attacks on Jordan's Muslim Brotherhood and the independent Muslim deputies. The European press has expressed doubt and concern in its analysis of the recent Jordanian elections. It claims that the reasons for the Islamic forces' victory was the small number of candidates who participated in the elections, these forces' criticism of the bad economic situation, and their simple election slogan that Islam is the solution. Some European newspapers also claim that many Christians voted for Muslim candidates who oppose state corruption. It is also alleged that the Jordanian people are conservative and will not vote against Muslim candidates.

Such propaganda reveals the West's surprise and fear over the Jordanian parliamentary elections results which indicated support for Islam and for a serious confrontation with Israel. Some believe that King Husayn may have trapped himself with his recent political game and that a situation may be created in Jordan which the regime will be unable to control. However, there is no way to predict what will happen in Jordan in the long run.

Two facts must be borne in mind. First of all, the deputies elected do not oppose Jordan's monarchy. Second, the Muslim Brotherhood has never expressed any opposition to King Husayn's policies and this group's political modus operandi in other countries has not created any problems with these countries' regimes. Therefore, it does not seem likely that King Husayn's regime will face any serious problems in the near future.

KAYHAN Cited on Jordanian Polls

LD1311095189 Tehran IRNA in English 0745 GMT 13 Nov 89

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 13, IRNA—By voting for Islamic groups in last Wednesday's parliamentary elections, the Jordanians clearly declared they wanted Islam, said an Iranian daily Monday.

KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL added in its editorial that "The striking gains made by Islamic groups was the last thing the staunchly pro-Western ruler had wanted."

Muslim groups won 34 seats in the 80-man House of Representatives during Wednesday elections.

The English daily said that the pro-Zionist trend that King Husayn was moving along would be threatened if he would not dissolve the parliament because the body is to pass all laws and budgets and can even reject cabinets.

"For the first time in many years, the cabinet appointed by Husayn will have to seek a vote of confidence from the assembly several members of which have called for outright introduction of Islamic shari'a laws and an end to Amman's shaking pro-Zionist policies," said the editorial.

Referring to the April display of Jordanians' dissatisfaction with King Husayn and his policies, the daily said, "King Husayn's urgent and apparently positive assessment of the election outcome suggests that he has taken the hint and knows where he stands."

Some Presidential Powers Given to Majlis Speaker

LD1211114189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Excerpts] The Majlis held an open session today. Our correspondent reports:

[Unidentified correspondent] The Majlis held a session. [passage omitted] In that session, the legal plan for ways to implement Articles 85 and 138 of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Constitution regarding the responsibilities of the speaker of the Majlis, was discussed and approved.

On the basis of that approval, the president's authorities and responsibilities with regard to Articles 85 and 138 of the Constitution will be given to the speaker of the Majlis [passage omitted]

Interior Minister on Free Movement of Goods

NC1111105989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Report on interview with Interior Minister 'Abdollah Nuri by unidentified correspondent; date, place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] The Interior Ministry has announced that cargo can now be transported freely from the border cities to other cities in the country. Interior Minister Mr Nuri said:

[Nuri] The decision that has been adopted and conveyed to the governors-general and the police force throughout the country is that checkpoints will be set up along the country's various axes. These checkpoints will be manned by both Islamic Revolution Committee and the Gendarmerie. Of course, we will not have more than one checkpoint on each axis.

They will be doing what the people want. They will be looking into issues that have created insecurity or into ways to prevent clashes with bandits and to disband the bandits, find stolen cars, track down fugitive insurgents, murderers, criminals, people carrying arms or explosives, or people who may have entered the country illegally and who are considered to be border violators, drug traffickers, and people who resort to various illegal acts. Some kind of control is needed and this control will exist.

The fact that imports—which can enter the country through any point, be it Bandar-e 'Abbas, Tehran, or anywhere else—were seized while en route to their final destination is something that gave rise to concern and dissatisfaction among the people. However, from now on legal goods will not be seized.

[Correspondent] Following the creation of border cooperatives and the granting of permission to trade goods with neighboring countries through these cooperatives, the process of transporting cargo from the border cities to other cities inside the country has been established. This has led to increased traffic along the various axes. Speaking of the impact of the implementation of this law on the market and on the price of goods, the interior minister said:

[Nuri] We think that with this decision, the price of goods which are relatively cheaper in border cities than in the center of the country because of the existence of border cooperatives and border trade will be affected and will drop. Of course, parallel with this, another point is under serious discussion and that is the expansion of border cooperatives and the expansion of border trade and that too will affect prices.

Ayatollah Yazdi Delivers Friday Prayers Sermon

LD1011230889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1118 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted] There are a few minor issues which I would like to point out. The first one pertains to the [Security Council] Resolution 598 and the numerous and various visits which have been carried out in that connection, such as the recent visit paid by one of the deputies of the [UN] secretary general, and his meetings in Baghdad. Contrary to the views held by some who consider themselves highly informed in politics—who believe that perhaps there have been some shifts and that such shifts in stands have brought the issues a step forward—I firmly believe that no shifts have taken place, that Iraq continues to pursue the policy of procrastination and stalling tactics, and that the recent talks have not led to any progress.

We urge the Security Council and its members to deal with this issue, and earnestly reiterate that in this past period, the Islamic Republic of Iran has completely proved its readiness to implement that resolution and has even accepted the [secretary general's] four-point plan. However, you are aware that Iraq is constantly placing obstacles in the path of such issues, and, in any case, it is necessary to deal with this issue more rapidly.

If Iraq, its supporters, certain members of the Security Council or the United Nations, or any other organization, think that by resorting to the same methods and policies which they used in the case of Israel, and recently in Lebanon—I will discuss this in my Arabic sermon—they may be able to enforce changes in the indisputable principles of Iran's domestic and foreign policies. If they think, moreover, that Iran will give up one inch of its territory in the course of such talks—in fact until the implementation of the first clause of the resolution, the taking of any other step is inconceivable [crowd chants "Death to America, death to Israel"]

I announce from this platform that they should never think that the policies used in connection with various nations, especially in the Third World, will be applicable to the Islamic Republic of Iran. The past 10 years of the Islamic Republic have entirely clarified that matter.

The second matter which is possibly related to my work to some extent is this: Every few days they spread a rumor or raise an issue in this or that corner of the world. Then propaganda organizations use of them for propaganda purposes, for political purposes; they may even have some economic uses for some groups. They spread rumors saying, yes, in Iran, it is like this, or in Iran, prisoners are living in such and such condition; in Iran, artists are in prison, they are in this or that condition; in Iran, women have been condemned, they are in such and such circumstances. About that last rumor, which I officially deny, I say: No such thing exists and the people who have drawn up that list may be—there is a strong possibility, I am not saying this with certainty, I am trying to obtain the document. [sentence as heard] I am not saying that those who drew up the list are hypocrites [reference to the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization], but the fact that every few days, they draw up a list and give it to the political or even intellectual or judicial personalities of Western countries, and create some issue against the Islamic Republic, such an idea that in Iran a

number of women have been condemned to death and are now [words indistinct] that is completely denied; such a thing does not exist.

In our special courts, which deal with penal offenses, if someone has committed a sin, and, for example, the shari'a says the legal punishment is death, what does that have to do with the issues which those gentlemen have pursued and about which they have raised a hue and cry everyday? It is surprising that first, there must be amazement in those European countries which have taken the matter seriously and believe a baseless list is factual and which launch a propaganda attack over it. There must be amazement over how [words indistinct]. Then there is the other country which, on the basis of a rumor, says: I will give them asylum; they can come, they are this or they are that.

Well, if the Islamic Republic did that, would you not say that it constituted interference in the affairs of a foreign country? You, however, freely interfere in other people's business in whatever capacity you can. And you expect people not to raise a word of protest. That is direct interference in the affairs of a foreign country—in the affairs of others, the affairs of other countries. It is meaningless. First of all, there is no such thing. I officially deny it as an official and I suspect that its root lies with the hypocrites, who supposedly want to improve their situation through those means; to improve their—I don't know—financial, political situation when they are faced with some problems. Second, that a country should give itself the right [to say] we will give asylum, let them come here. We will do whatever is necessary. Such things are not in keeping with any international principles. [passage omitted]

As to the next point; here I talk as an individual in this gathering and as such I present my personal point of view. I announce the support of the Judiciary for the programs of the honorable cabinet of the honorable president of the Republic, our dear brother Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin His Excellency Hashemi-Rafsanjani. I declare support for his programs in industry, agriculture, production, distribution, and even in issues of science and universities and other programs. I want, moreover, the same support for these programs from the people.

The reason why I raise the point once again is because of the need to pay attention to a particular fact; that is, if at the time of the initiation of an action some people suggest that the basic policies have been changed and changes are attributed to certain personalities, in my view such suggestions are a kind of obstructionism against the progress of the affairs of the government.

Let the government achieve progress in implementation of its programs. I declare explicitly and unequivocally, on my own behalf as well as on behalf of the honorable speaker of the Majlis and on his behalf [Hashemi-Rafsanjani], and even on behalf of the exalted leader [Khamene'i], that the broad outlines of the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, being Neither East Nor West, have not been impaired a bit and will not be allowed to be impaired at any cost. I hope pens and tongues, God willing, will be used more than before in the direction of overall programs. [passage omitted]

The last point I want to mention is the arrest on orders of courts in various parts of the country of a number of individuals who are media reporters who probably have been taken into custody and this has led to unpleasant confrontations. I would like to tell them all from this platform that if there is coverage in the newspapers and the press, whether in the form of letters or in news items, then the press has its own law. There is the press law. There are laws enacted by the Majlis which have been in force for some time. If somebody believes that a news item is not correct, if a letter [printed in the press] is not correct then it must be dealt with according to the law. There may well be a reporter who possibly may not know what has been reflected in the newspaper. Therefore, his harassment and arrest and confrontation with him only to be followed by a remark that Oh well, forgive me, it was all a mistake.... [sentence incomplete as heard] I hope such behavior will not be repeated in the courts. [passage omitted]

Pakistan

Bhutto on Indian Hindu Actions Against Muslims

Statement Expresses 'Deep Concern'

BK1011154289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] The prime minister has expressed deep concern on behalf of the government and people of Pakistan over the regrettable plan of the extremist Hindus to construct a temple at the site of the Babri Mosque [disputed shrine] in Ayodhya City of India's Uttar Pradesh. In a statement in Islamabad today, Benazir Bhutto said the step is designed to deliberately desecrate a holy Muslim place and has created serious unrest and concern among world Muslims. She said the Pakistani Government has repeatedly expressed its concern over the killing of innocent Muslims in several parts of India, because the Pakistani people have a close relationship and cultural and historical ties with Indian Muslims.

The prime minister said the Pakistani Government's policy has always been not to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, but Muslims residing both inside and outside India are deeply concerned over incidents occurring at the Babri Mosque. She said the Pakistani people share the wave of indignation and resentment that has swept the entire Muslim world in the wake of these developments. Benazir Bhutto reiterated the Pakistani Government's position that it is the responsibility of the Indian Government to take effective steps to end the communal massacre and to ensure full protection of the life and property of Muslims in India and to respect the feelings and sensibilities of the Islamic community.

Hindu Plan 'Reprehensible'

BK1111011089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1735 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Excerpt] Islamabad, Nov 10 (AFP)—Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto on Friday [10 November] expressed concern over a plan by Hindu fundamentalists to demolish the Babri Mosque in the northern indian city of Ayodhya.

In a statement issued late Friday, the prime minister expressed Pakistan's "deep concern at the reprehensible plan of extremist Hindu elements" in India to construct a temple on the site of the mosque.

"This step is a willful desecration of an Islamic holy place and arouses the deepest resentment among Moslems all over the world," she said.

A controversial plan by Hindu fanatics to demolish the 16th-century Babri Mosque built by the first Moghul emperor, Babar, and replace it with a Hindu temple have sparked ongoing Hindu-Moslem riots in India.

Front-page reports in the Pakistani press Friday said police were "silent spectators" Thursday as several hundred Hindus laid the temple's foundation near Babri Mosque, which they claim is the birthplace of Lord Rama, an incarnation of Vishnu, one of the trinity of Hindu gods.

The Hindus defied a high court order which declared the site disputed and called for no change in its use after Hindus failed to provide historical evidence to support their case, the reports said.

Ms. Bhutto said that Pakistan has repeatedly expressed concern over a recent spate of killings of innocent Moslems in various parts of India, adding that Pakistanis share kinship, culture and history with Indian Moslems.

She said Pakistan's consistent policy was not to interfere in the internal affairs of other states. However, "developments in the Babri Mosque issue are a matter of deepest concern for Moslems both inside and outside India," she said.

The prime minister added: "The people of Pakistan share the anguish which these developments have caused to their Moslem brethren worldwide." [passage omitted]

Bhutto Orders Protection of Hindu Religious Places

BK1211085089 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] The prime minister has directed Sind Chief Minister Syed Qaim Ali Shah to give full protection to the religious places of Hindus in Sind. Benazir Bhutto issued this directive in Sukkur yesterday after a member of the Hindu sect lodged a complaint with her that some damage was caused to religious places of Hindus in Sukkur in retaliation for the Babri mosque [disputed shrine in India's Uttar Pradesh state] issue in India. The prime minister said she will not allow such things in Pakistan.

Indian Envoy Told of Concern Over Babri Mosque

BK1311112889 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 13 Nov 89

[Text] The Indian high commissioner was called to the Foreign Office in Islamabad this morning and was informed of the deep concern of the prime minister, the government, and the people of Pakistan over the Babri Mosque [disputed shrine in India's Uttar Pradesh state] issue.

The Indian high commissioner gave the assurance that the Indian Government had taken steps to ensure that the sanctity of the mosque is not violated.

Minister Condemns 'Hindu Extremists' in India

BK1011140889 Hong Kong AFP in English 1325 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 10 (AFP)—Pakistan has condemned the desecration of a mosque by Hindu extremists in India, saying it had shocked the entire Muslim community, newspapers quoted the Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) as saying Friday [10 November].

Religious and Minority Affairs Minister Khan Bahadur Khan told the official agency the government would ask India "to take serious notice of the heinous act of the Hindus."

"The recent acts of Hindu fanatics to demolish the mosque has damaged the religious sentiments of the Muslims," he said.

This is Pakistan's first official reaction to India's ongoing Hindu-Muslim riots, sparked by a controversial plan by Hindu fanatics to demolish a mosque in the Indian city of Ayodhya and replace it with a Hindu temple.

Hindu fundamentalists want to build a temple in place of the 16th century Babri Mosque built by the first Moghal emperor, Babar.

Front-page reports in the Pakistani press Friday said police remained "silent spectators" Thursday as several hundred Hindus laid the temple's foundation near Babri Mosque, which they claim is the birth place of Lord Rama, an incarnation of Vishnu, one of the trinity of Hindu gods.

The Hindus defied a high court order declaring the site disputed and calling for no change in its use after Hindus failed to provide historical evidence to support their case, the reports said.

Mr. Khan warned that "such an act could harm the on-going efforts of normalisation of relations between the two countries," APP said.

Referring to communal riots which left more than 200 Muslims dead in India, he said, "the Hindu extremists

had gone beyond all norms and rules and wanted to continue the massacre of Muslims."

It was the duty of the Indian Government "to keep strict check on such violations," the minister observed.

Earlier, the Lahore daily THE NATION deplored several weeks of "mysterious silence" from the Pakistani Government, which is trying to normalise relations with India after decades of mistrust had caused three wars.

Punjab Assembly Concerned Over Mosque Issue

BK1211084289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] The Punjab Provincial Assembly has expressed deep concern over the reprehensible plan of Hindu elements to construct a temple at the site of the Babri Mosque in Ayodhya City of India. A resolution adopted before the prorogation of the house session last night called upon the federal government to pressure the Indian Government to immediately stop the construction of the temple and to end the killing of innocent Muslims in India.

The resolution also urged the Islamic Conference Organization to convene its emergency meeting and help the Indian Muslims maintain their identity and religious freedom.

Spokesman Hails U.S. Economic, Military Aid

BK1111083689 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] The U.S. Congress has finally cleared Pakistan's military and economic aid for 1990 amounting to about $600 million. It is part of a 6-year aid package of over $4 billion for Pakistan. A report adopted last night by a joint committee of the House of Representatives and the Senate provides for 1-year extension to the waiver of a key nuclear nonproliferation law. President Bush told Congress last month that Pakistan does not possess a nuclear device. A certification to that effect was needed under another law to provide the aid. The aid includes $230 million in foreign military sales and an equal amount for economic support fund, $50 million for development assistance, $80 million under the food aid program, and $5.7 million to fight narcotics. All the money is in grants.

A Pakistan Embassy spokesman in Washington called it a very favorable development considering the fact that the aid to a number of traditional U.S. allies has been substantially reduced and even eliminated. He said the appropriation for Pakistan represents a strong vote of confidence in the elected government of Prime Minister Ms Benazir Bhutto.

Ishaq Khan Swears in Three New Ministers

BK1111083989 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] A new federal minister and two ministers of state were sworn in in Islamabad today. President Ghulam Ishaq Khan administered the oath. Mian Ghulam Mohammad Ahmad Khan Maneka took the oath as federal minister for manpower and overseas Pakistanis, and Makhdoom Syed Ahmad Alam Anwar as minister of state. Mr (Ghulam Akber Lakhi) will be minister of state for labor.

Sri Lanka

Security Forces Kill JVP Leader 12 Nov

BK1311071489 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0655 GMT 13 Nov 89

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Nov 13 (LANKAPUVATH)—JVP [Janatha Vimukti Peramuna] leader, Rohana Wijeweera, was reported to have been killed last night in an encounter with security forces, police told LANKAPUVATH. They said the incident occurred at Ulapane in the Central Province.

The bearded, bespectaded Wijeweera, who hails from Tangalle in southern Sri Lanka, was 48 years old, married and had three children. Expelled from Lumumba University in Moscow, he returned to Sri Lanka and formed the JVP, as a clandestine organisation in 1968. In 1971, the JVP staged an abortive insurrection against the SLFP [Sri Lanka Freedom Party] government. He entered the first presidential elections which was won by Mr J.R. Jayewardene and came third. Since July 1983, Wijeweera went underground and led a campaign of subversion aimed at overthrowing the UNP [United National Party] Government.

'Another' Indian Peacekeeping Contingent Departs

BK1111162089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] Another contingent of the [Indian] Peacekeeping Force [PKF] from Sri Lanka left Trincomalee today for home. The contingent was seen off at the Trincomalee port by the senior officers of the PKF. The jawans [soldiers] in the regiment were deployed mainly in implementing various civic action programs in the Eastern Province of the island country.

Gunmen Attack Ministry Office, Wound 4 Officials

BK1011100889 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0754 GMT 10 Nov 89

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Nov 10 (LANKAPUVATH)—Four officials, including a private secretary to a state minister and a bank manager, were wounded when six gunmen stormed into a committee meeting being held at the Ministry of State for Plantations at Vauxhall Street in Colombo 2 this morning. Police told LANKAPUVATH that the incident had occurred about 1100 hours (local time).

Communique Details Subversive Activities

BK1111095889 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0859 GMT 11 Nov 89

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Nov 11 (LANKAPUVATH)—Five subversives were killed when police repulsed an attack by subversives on the Mawarella police station in the southern province district of Matara at 1100 hours (local time) yesterday. Two policemen and a police labourer suffered injuries. The labourer succumbed to his injuries, a government communique issued today states.

The communique also states that a group of subversives dressed in army type uniforms attacked the police, injuring a police constable, a reserve police constable and a labourer. The police returned fire killing 5 subversives. A rifle and shot guns were recovered from an Elf van which had been abandoned by the subversives.

It further states that security forces arrested six persons who attempted to enter the Sri Jayawardenepura Hospital, Kotte, in the Colombo District, masquerading as army personnel. They were handed over to the Mirihana police for questioning.

In Matara, during cordon and search operations at Henegama and Indigahahena, trap guns, shot guns, cartridges, cans containing gun powder, knives and masks were recovered by security forces. At Beragala, in Badulla, security forces conducting cordon and search operations recovered 12 bore shot guns, locally made shot guns and army uniforms from a subversive hideout. In Kegalle, three suspected subversives were arrested at Taliyadda. At Kalahagamaduwa, in Hambantota, a bomb exploded injuring a soldier on patrol. At Kendawinna, in the Moneragala District, security forces recovered from a subversive safe house, six shot guns, locally made shot guns and army type uniforms. Security forces arrested a suspected subversive, in the north western province district of Kurunegala, and recovered rupees 9,000, the communique states.